

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR



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Topics for September and October



VICE-PRESIDENT NIXON RECEIVES CITATION AT PHILADELPHIA CONVENTION

For Christ and the Church...

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR



Cover

Around the photo of the Citation presented to Vice President Nixon at the Philadelphia Convention are shown (starting in upper right-hand corner and going clockwise) Christian Endeavor leaders with Mr. Nixon; Dr. Daniel A. Poling and Carol Gates greeting Mr. Nixon at the airport; Mr. Nixon talking with Dr. and Mrs. Clyde W. Meadows at the reception; and the Mexican delegation with Mr. Nixon and Dr. Poling.

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The Voice of Christian Endeavor

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER • 1959

Volume 75, Number 1

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MEMO

from the General Secretary

A CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR HOMECOMING!

The week of July 6-11, 1959, was a Homecoming for Christian Endeavor International. Seventy years ago, in 1889, the eighth International Convention was held in the First Regiment Armory in the City of Brotherly Love, and on almost the same days and dates. Among the delegates seven decades ago were representatives from Canada and Germany. That 1889 convention received the first message from a President of the United States to a Christian Endeavor convention. The 1959 convention likewise heard a message read from President Dwight D. Eisenhower and received personally a graduate of Christian Endeavor, the Honorable Richard M. Nixon, Vice President of the United States, to whom the Eighth International Youth's Distinguished Service Citation was presented. Among the delegates to the 1959 version of the convention were representatives from Canada again, Mexico, the United States, and fraternal delegates from Burma, India, and Germany. Of Philadelphia 1959 every delegate is saying, "It was good to have been there."

WELCOME, MR. PRESIDENT!

A thunderous ovation was given to Dr. Clyde W. Meadows of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, when he was acclaimed the new president of the International Society of Christian Endeavor, succeeding Dr. Earle W. Gates of Derby, New York. President Clyde comes as no stranger to a position of responsibility in the larger work of Christian Endeavor. Pastor of a great church, the King Street United Brethren Church of Chambersburg, Dr. Meadows has represented Christian Endeavor in many places. He captured the hearts of thousands at the 13th World's Christian Endeavor Convention in Frankfurt in 1958. His will be a dynamic leadership, continuing the tradition of those who have held this high office before. Our prayers will go before him as he takes up these new and heavy responsibilities.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVORERS IN THE NEWS

The hosts of friends of World's Union President Dr. Daniel A. Poling will be interested to know that the Faculty and Board of Trustees of Huntington College (United Brethren in Christ Church), Huntington, Indiana, conferred upon Dr. Poling at the recent annual college commencement the honorary degree of Doctor of Humanities. Dr. Poling delivered the commencement address Robert C. Ross, educational secretary and citizenship director of the International Society of Christian Endeavor, was awarded the Bachelor of Divinity degree at the recent annual commencement of the Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, Indiana Past-President Earle W. Gates, just a week before the International Convention in Philadelphia, suffered a serious back injury, diagnosed as a spinal fracture of the 12th dorsal. In spite of a heavy body cast, President Earle carried on his many convention duties Vernon Hoffman, former Youth Assembly chairman, was recently graduated from the Western Theological Seminary (Reformed Church in America), winning the award for Senior Excellence and the Sermon Delivery Award. Vern will be doing new church work on the east coast of Florida Dr. Gene Stone, former general secretary of the International Society, recently assumed the responsible office of moderator of the Presbytery of Shenango (United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.).

CONGRATULATIONS, LONGTIMER!

J. G. MacDannald of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, familiarly known by his hosts of intimate friends as "J. G.," recently marked his 76th birthday and celebrated the 70th anniversary of membership in Christian Endeavor, having started at the age of six as a Junior. We praise God for men like J. G.

IT'S CHICAGO IN 1961

Yes, we're going to Chicago for our 46th International Christian Endeavor Convention—our Eightieth Anniversary Jubilee Convention. We're going at the warm invitation of the Chicago-Christian Endeavor Union, William R. Bonnema, president. Mark the dates—July 5 through 8, 1961.

Harold Westerhoff



Dr. Clyde W. Meadows New President

R. CLYDE W. MEADOWS is the new president of the International Society of Christian Endeavor.

Dr. Meadows, who has served in many capacities in Christian Endeavor, was installed by Dr. Daniel A. Poling at the Friday evening session of the 45th International Christian Endeavor Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He succeeds Dr. Earle W. Gates who has served as president since 1955.

The new leader is pastor of King Street United Brethren Church of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. He has served as vice-president of the International Society and is currently a member of the Executive Committee of both the International Society and the World's Union. Dr. Meadows is immediate past president of the Pennsylvania State Sabbath School Association and is now a member of their Board of Directors. He is the author of several religious education books and is well known as a convention speaker and song leader. Dr. Meadows and his wife, Mabel, have a daughter, Mrs. Una Joyce Broome, who lives in Florida with her husband and two sons, Bradley and Carter.

Besides Dr. Meadows, other officers installed at Philadelphia are associate president Timothy J. Kribs; vice-presidents Rev. George L. Blackwell, Allan J. Blair, Mrs. Ernest R. Bryan, Norman Klauder, Julian Moran, and Elwood Dunn (who was elected to fill a new vice-presidency created by a change in bylaws); general secretary and treasurer, Harold E. Westerhoff; educational secretary and citizenship director, Robert C. Ross; assistant secretary and editor, Phyllis I. Rike; extension secretary, Cecil A. Jeffery; and auditor, William J. von Minden.

Vice-presidents in charge of regions include: New England, Rev. Willard Thomen; Middle Atlantic, James R. Westerhoff; Southern, Mozelle Dick; Great Lakes, William R. Bonnema; Central, Albert E. Schoenbeck; Rocky Mountain, Ralph E. May; Southwestern, Mary Moffitt; Pacific, Mrs. R. E. LeRiche; Dominion of Canada, Mary Campbell; Republic of Mexico, David Macias.

Youth Assembly officers elected include Richard Snyder, Michigan, chairman; William Arthur, Oregon, vice-chairman; and Shirley Fretz, Ontario, secretary.

A MESSAGE TO ENDEAVORERS

One of the precious privileges of my life has been to serve as president of the International Society of Christian Endeavor. The years have flown by quickly, and it seems as though I have scarcely received the Francis E. Clark presidential chain from Dr. Poling, when in reality I have just transmitted it to Dr. Clyde W. Meadows, the new president. Elected at Philadelphia, Dr. Meadows brings to this high office a deep spiritual message, a dedicated zeal, and a splendid quality of dynamic leadership.

As we who have served together pass the torch of leadership to a new set of officers, it is done with the deep conviction that Christian Endeavor is at the crossroads of opportunity. It can readily rise to its greatest heights, or it can drift along into mediocrity. The choice lies with us. New interdenominational relationships and mergers, a keen ecumenical spirit, a heartfelt yearning for the things that only Christian Endeavor can accomplish, all bring into clear focus the genius of Christian Endeavor.

A mighty and a spirit-filled convention has just been concluded at Philadelphia. Our speakers, including the Vice-President of the United States,

brought a united emphasis upon the deeper spiritual things with which Christian Endeavor has ever been associated. Many young lives were dedicated to Christ and for His service. Great and inspiring messages, skillfully conducted class sessions, and a unique quality of fellowship made the week memorable for all who were a part of the convention. Representatives of many nations were present. A deeply significant Communion service of massive proportions was conducted on the closing day. At the concluding service, Vice-President Richard M. Nixon, a former Endeavorer, received International Youth's Distinguished Service Citation, and spoke to a packed church on the power of faith.

Truly from such a spring-board of spiritual power our current theme will be given great impetus. "For Christ and the Church" will be the watchword that inspires and impels us for the next two years. May it find lodgment in every life, and may it be the heart of greatly improved programs in every society and union.

The Christian Endeavor Movement is in an enviable position today, for it has what the modern church needs, and it

is well equipped to supply every facet of that need. Let us keep so at the center of God's will that we in North America may keep up with the onward march of progress in Christian Endeavor throughout the world.

Once again I thank my beloved associates for their loyalty, their understanding, and their sacrificial service in these days we have shared. I deeply appreciate it, and pray that we have forged together countless links of enduring value. Both by personal word and public demonstration, they have caused me great rejoicing. I wish each one to know of my abiding interest in the work, my affection for each of them, and my determination to help make strong this heritage of opportunity that we possess together.

To President Meadows let us all pledge our best. Let prayer continue for Christian Endeavor and for every Endeavorer. Loving and trusting, let us go forward . . . for Christ and the Church.

Earle W. Gates



THE PHILADELPHIA STORY

"Forward is the vision, and forward is the movement of Christian Endeavor today," Dr. Earle W. Gates, retiring president of the International Society, told 2,000 delegates at the opening session of the 45th International Christian Endeavor Convention meeting in Baptist Temple, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Giving the keynote address, Dr. Gates lifted up Christian Endeavor's current theme, "For Christ and the Church," which continues for the next two years.

In speaking of the convention theme, "Forward—For Christ and the Church," Dr. Gates said, "This theme takes the traditional motto of the movement and propels it into new action. Assuredly, such action is our divine responsibility, first in this convention, and even more as we move out from it. Countless decisions will be made here, some affecting the lives of individuals, others the life of the total church. Prepare now for dedication of the highest and best."

Advance!

Dr. Gates challenged delegates to "advance in the area of recruitment" and pointed out that a recent survey shows that by 1970 the teen-age population will be double that of 1955. "Let us be ready to bring these young people into the Christian life," Dr. Gates said.

"The growing needs of the day challenge us to a massive campaign for temperance," Dr. Gates continued. "The dangers of the use of alcohol and tobacco, as well as narcotics, must be made clear to the youth of the continent. Christ-centered citizenship and effective leadership training are our imperatives today."

"It is not enough to merely maintain our status quo; the mandate of the day is 'Advance!'" concluded Dr. Gates. "To this end we must re-study our heritage and resources, we must determine to take positive new steps, and we must ever affirm, 'I will do whatever He would like to have me do.'"

Dr. Gates came to the convention in a heavy body cast, having recently been hospitalized for a fracture of the spine caused by a fall. "Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ, I have done what I thought I could not do," said Dr. Gates, in speaking of his injury.

Challenge to Decision

In a stirring message on "The Glorious Liberty of Christ," Rev. Earl W. Lawson of Emmanuel Baptist Church, Malden, Massachusetts, told delegates on Tuesday evening, "Sin has 'I' in the center. Real sin is putting ourselves in the center of life and pushing God out." Many young people came forward for decisions following Mr. Lawson's clear-cut message on salvation.

Rev. Arno Pagel, president of the German Christian Endeavor Union, brought

greetings from German Endeavorers and from Area II of the World's Union when he spoke on Wednesday evening. With the theme, "What Is a Christian?" based on Acts 11:26, Mr. Pagel pointed out the four marks of a real Christian: he knew Christ as his personal Lord and Savior, wishes to obey Him as his Master and King, brings the witness of Christ to others, and is waiting for His Lord's coming again.

2,200 at "Floating Session"

As delegates sailed down the Delaware River aboard the S.S. STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA Thursday evening, the emphasis of the session was on Christian fellowship. Arch J. McQuilkin, master of ceremonies, included youth talent and testimony on the program.

Dr. Ross H. Stover, minister of Messiah Lutheran Church, Philadelphia, told delegates, "This is no 'floating' session. Christian Endeavor does not float! We are young Christians of action. The world is in revolution and we must be the cement that will hold the world together."

Dr. Stover challenged the delegates, "Since this great International Convention brings youth from the four corners of the earth, can we not carry back to these corners the vital message of Jesus Christ?"

Following the installation of officers Monday evening, Dr. Daniel A. Poling, president of the World's Union, assured delegates, "'For Christ and the Church' is more than the Christian Endeavor motto—it is a way of life and a pattern of work and service."

Departing from his prepared notes, Dr. Poling gave a moving message based on his years of Christian Endeavor service.

Nixon Receives Citation

The Honorable Richard M. Nixon, Vice President of the United States, was awarded International Youth's Distinguished Service Citation at the closing session Saturday evening.

Dr. Poling introduced Vice President Nixon and Dr. Gates, after reading the Citation, presented it to Mr. Nixon.

In accepting this citation Mr. Nixon counted that he grew up in Christian Endeavor and it was in a society meeting that he presided for the first time. "I have more good experience there than I could have ever gotten from any other organization," he continued. "For that reason I hold a very special place in my heart for Christian Endeavor."

Prior to the evening service over Endeavorers greeted Mr. Nixon in a formal reception at the Benjamin Franklin Hotel.

Closing Message

"On Fire But Not Consumed" (Exodus 3:2) was the subject of the closing message delivered by Dr. Harold John Ockers.

Convention Photos by Carl and William Wilson

TOP LEFT—These four "colonial dames" from Philadelphia welcomed delegates. SECOND FROM TOP—Dr. Daniel A. Poling greets Maung Maung Han (right), official representative of Burma Baptist Christian Endeavor Union; THIRD FROM TOP—Five delegates from "south of the border" serenade Endeavorers. FOURTH FROM TOP—Dr. Ross H. Stover speaking at "floating session"; BOTTOM—Delegates on top deck of Steamer S.S. STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Message from President Eisenhower

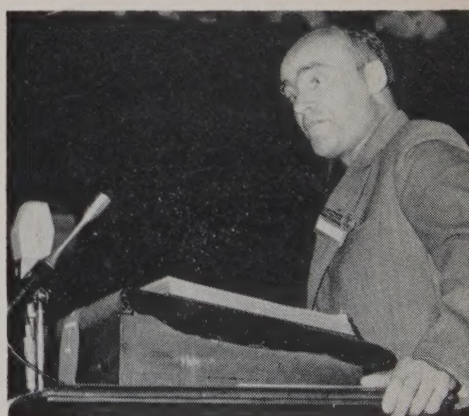
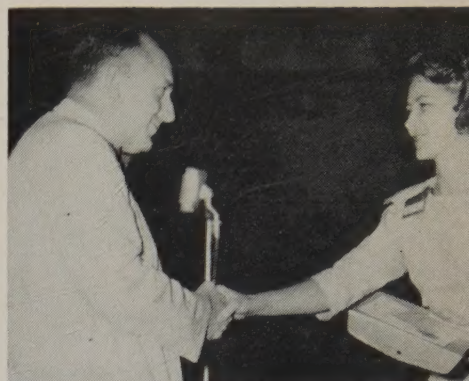
THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington, D. C.

It is a pleasure to send greetings to those attending the 45th International Christian Endeavor Convention, and congratulations to the recipient of your International Youth's Distinguished Service Citation, the Honorable Richard M. Nixon.

In your efforts to advance the work of the church, it is natural that you single out individuals who stand for the highest traditions of Christian citizenship. Such a man is Richard Nixon. His devotion to the principles of his faith has helped him establish an outstanding record of service to his fellow men at home and around the world.

Please give him my personal regard, and my best wishes to all gathered in his honor.

Dwight D. Eisenhower



minister of Park Street Church, Boston, he said that his own church has had a Christian Endeavor society since 1885. He also said, "I, too, made my first speech in a young people's society." "What we need today," concluded Dr. Ockenga, "is young men and women who are on fire with a zeal for the God who is revealed in the Bible, for Christian truth, and for the incorporation of that truth in their relationships." Vice-President Nixon, expressing a keen desire to hear Dr. Ockenga, remained throughout the entire session. At the close of the session, an opportunity was given for rededication and for making new decisions and many delegates responded.

Transfer of Presidential Chain

In a very moving ceremony the Francis Clark presidential chain was passed from Earle W. Gates to the new president, Clyde W. Meadows, just before the close of the convention. Dr. Daniel A. Poling, who had received the chain from the hands of Mrs. Francis Clark at the 1929 Kansas City convention, told that it was a gift from all the sons to Dr. Clark on his 60th birthday and read the inscription.

Registrations Exceed 5,000

More than 5,000 registered for the Philadelphia convention. In the registration contest sponsored by International Society of Golden Rule Union and Oregon led in their respective divisions. A special registrar's award of \$25 each went to Alfred L. Saunders and to Mrs. Etta Berger, registrars of the top unions.

The top five unions in each division received special award banners. Unions marched in the parade and were seated in convention sessions according to the way they finished in the contest.

Devotional Study and "School"

Each morning's program began with age-up Quiet Hour and Bible study periods led by Dr. Clyde W. Meadows, Rev.

George C. Lurwick, Rev. Arno Pagel, and Dr. Norman W. Paullin.

Then followed the "school" of the convention with 37 conferences on Christian Endeavor program and methods, evangelism, devotional life, etc. Youth Assembly official delegates met each day with Ronald Snyder of Michigan as presiding officer and Timothy J. Kribs and Robert C. Ross serving as advisors.

A Junior Workers' Section met daily, with approximately 500 Juniors attending their own convention held Saturday in Chambers-Wylie Memorial Presbyterian Church, under the direction of Mrs. Warren G. Hoopes, Sr.

Daily General Assemblies

Directed by Cecil A. Jeffrey, the general assembly period each morning was a fast-moving time of singing, talent, special presentations, and a brief message on "Christian Endeavor Distinctives" given by Bishop R. W. Rash of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. Bishop Rash was Program Committee Chairman for the convention.

A Musical Convention

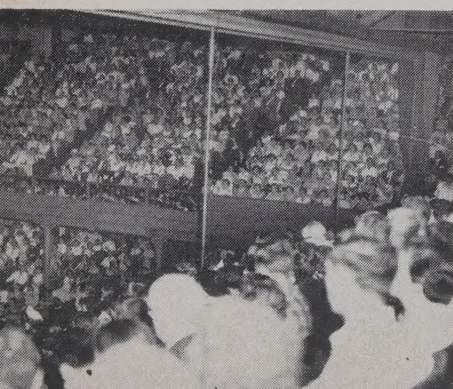
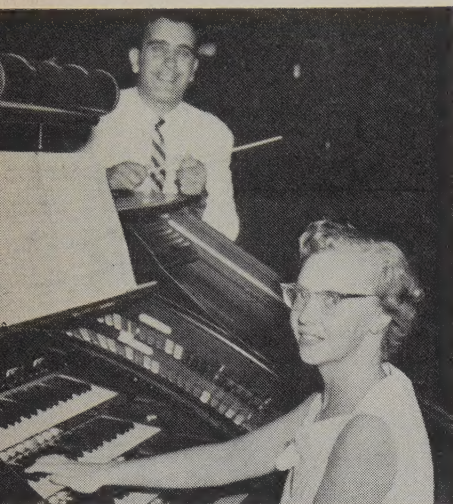
Ward Abusamra, convention song leader, and his wife, Barbara, who served as pianist, led the delegates in many enthusiastic song services. Each evening the 120-voice choir directed by J. Robert Ellis presented an anthem.

In addition, the Young Adult Choir of Trinity A.M.E. Church, Gouldtown, New Jersey, and the Presbyterian Nurses' Choir of Philadelphia sang special numbers and the Salvation Army Pioneer Corps Band provided music aboard the steamer.

Citizenship Winners Honored

Winners of the Albert H. Diebold Awards in Christian Endeavor's 1959 Citizenship Contest were honored at the Wednesday evening session. Patricia Sehorn of Oregon and Nancy James of North Carolina, top winners, gave youth witnesses that evening.

TOP RIGHT—Rev. Earl W. Lawson challenges delegates; SECOND FROM TOP—Earle W. Gates congratulates Nancy James, Division B citizenship winner; THIRD FROM TOP—Patricia Sehorn, Division A citizenship winner, gives youth witness; FOURTH FROM TOP—Rev. Arno Pagel, German Union president, drives home a point; BOTTOM—Phyllis I. Rike (center) presents \$25 checks to Mrs. Etta Berger of Oregon and Alfred L. Saunders of Golden Rule Union, winning registrars in Philadelphia registration contest.



MORE PHILADELPHIA FEATURES

Many special activities were a part of the Philadelphia convention program. Delegates enjoyed denominational and union luncheons and dinners and a reception for Longtimers.

Over 800 Endeavorers gathered in Reynburn Plaza in the shadow of City Hall after the opening session for a hymn sing led by Edward H. Braun.

Street meetings were held at noon each day with delegates giving personal testimony and distributing tracts.

Thirty-five Boosters for THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD met together for lunch and then went out to secure 150 new subscriptions. For securing the most subscriptions during the convention Ronald Bush of Michigan was awarded a handsome watch and Sherry Lucas of Pennsylvania received a transistor radio.

Recognition Dinner

On Thursday evening 235 Endeavorers paid tribute to Dr. and Mrs. Earle W. Gates at a Recognition Dinner at First Baptist Church.

Tributes were given by Earle W. Gates, Jr. (a son); Timothy J. Kribs (a Christian Endeavorer); Eugene G. Alhart (from the Empire State); and Harold E. Westerhoff (an associate). The address was given by Dr. Daniel A. Poling. Mrs. Norman Klauder presented to Mrs. Gates a lovely gold bracelet, while Norman Klauder, who was presiding officer, presented to Dr. Gates a gold watch. Both gifts came from many Endeavorers in grateful appreciation of four years of service.

Christian Witness Parade

On Saturday at 2:00 P.M. 15,000 Endeavorers marched from the Parkway to Independence Hall in a great parade that was one hour and fifteen minutes in length. There were more than 50 floats and musical units in the line of march.

Certificates for top marching units went to West Park Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia; Montgomery County Junior Union for Pennsylvania; and Kentucky Union, for out-of-state delegations. Winning float was the Gospel Train entered by Bethany Evangelical United Brethren Church, Norristown, Pennsylvania; second place, the Shepherd Scene prepared by Schuylkill Branch, Philadelphia; third position, the Four Cardinal Principles float of Ontario Union. New York State had the largest out-of-state delegation, with Oregon receiving honors for having come the greatest distance.

Chicago 1961

An enthusiastic Chicago delegation, headed by President William R. Bonnema, gave a warm invitation for delegates to come to the Windy City July 5-8, 1961, for the 46th International Christian Endeavor Convention.

Resolutions

The Resolutions Committee under leadership of Phyllis G. Brown, chairman, presented a number of resolutions which were adopted by convention delegates.

Endeavorers were urged to practice citizenship within the framework of Christian principles and pray for Divine guidance for all civic leaders; to support those businesses which observe Sunday closing and help make the Lord's Day a holy day; support efforts now being waged to outlaw the various media of indecent or obscene expression and to patronize those which are wholesome; to set an example by modest and appropriate dress; and to avoid the use of alcoholic drinks, narcotics, and tobacco and condemn the advertising of them.

Airlines were urged to discontinue the practice of serving alcoholic beverages to passenger aircraft.

Both labor and management were called upon to remember the Golden Rule.

Any recognition of Red China by the United States or the United Nations, such as proposed at the World Order Summit Conference in Cleveland last November, was condemned as a betrayal of Chinese Christians and Christian missionaries and also of the ideals of the late John Foster Dulles.

Next month's Vienna Youth Festival was called "another false and sinister 'peace' propaganda program." Christian youth who may attend were urged to speak out in defense and support of freedom and faith and against atheism, and enslavement. The resolution declared that there can be "no reconciliation, no affinity between Christianity and atheistic Communism."

The International Olympics Committee was urged to reconsider its recent action ruling out Nationalist China on Formosa in favor of Communist China.

Continual prayer was asked on behalf of all Christian victims of Communist oppression.

Appreciation was expressed to Dr. Earle W. Gates and to Dr. Daniel A. Poling and to Philadelphia Endeavorers and many others who helped in local arrangements.

A special tribute was paid to Dr. S. Morris, Sr., whose sudden death occurred July 7 in Philadelphia. Dr. Morris, general secretary of the General Board of Education, Division of Christian Education, A.M.E. Church, with headquarters in Nashville, Tennessee, was to have participated in the convention.

The final resolution called upon Endeavorers everywhere to dedicate themselves to the convention theme, "Forward For Christ and the Church."

TOP LEFT—J. Robert Ellis, Arch J. McQuilkin, Elwood Dunn, and John R. Hargrave (from left to right) participate on local radio program; SECOND FROM TOP—Ward Abusamra and wife, Barbara, led delegates in singing; THIRD FROM TOP—New International Society officers installed by Dr. Daniel A. Poling; FOURTH FROM TOP—Dr. Harold John Ockenga gives message at closing session; BOTTOM—Part of the standing-room-only crowd Saturday night.



BELOW—Kentucky and Ohio Endeavorers were greeted by the "colonial dames" when they reached Philadelphia. Busloads of Endeavorers also came from Alabama and Michigan.



BELOW—Citizenship Contest winners are shown after they received Albert H. Diebold Awards at the Wednesday evening session.



BELOW—Norman Klauder presents gold watch, gift from Endeavorers, to Dr. Earle W. Gates at recognition dinner.

BELOW—Five hundred alert Juniors participated in the Junior Convention on Saturday.



RIGHT — Trying out a wheel chair for size is Harold E. Westerhoff, general secretary of the International Society, when he was honored during General Assembly.



ABOVE—Officers selected by the Youth Assembly are (seated, left to right) William Arthur, vice-chairman; Richard Snyder, chairman; and Shirley Fretz, secretary. Trustees (standing, left to right) are Jack Diehl, Bob Byrd, Lynda Green, Lynn Moody, Virgie Lou Rudolph, June McGill, and William Lewis.

Additional convention pictures, including parade photos, will appear in the October issue of THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD.

BELOW—Texans in their ten-gallon hats pose before the colorful replica of Christian Endeavor's 1960 Outdoor Poster in the hotel lobby.



First Things FIRST

By Edwin J. Potts, Executive Assistant, National Sunday School Association

"All we would ever do is church work—if we followed what you say."

Although some of those at Christian Endeavor looked a little shocked at this bold statement, most of us probably felt the same way.

The one who surprised the group with his blunt response was substituting the term *church work* for *God's will*. Our discussion topic was "First Things First." The group had decided that this meant putting God's will first.

Following this remark the discussion brought out the confusion in the minds of many Endeavorers who had thought the topic "First Things First" could mean "Church Work First." Now they began to see that "God's Will First" was an entirely different and much more challenging idea.

To do God's will does not limit us to church work only. It means that no matter what decisions we make, we choose according to what God wants for us.

But suppose it is just an ordinary day and there are many possibilities of things to do and many decisions to make. God does not have a preferred activities list, and yet He must have a preference. Will I be able to put first things first by following His will?

Learning God's will for every decision no matter how little seems almost an impossible task until we realize that God is not playing a cat and mouse game with us. He is as anxious for us to know His will as He is for us to follow it.

Because God does not print letters in the sky or speak out of a cloud, to know anything at all seems so indefinite, hazy, and mystical. To the one who experiences it, however, it becomes certain, clear, and practical.

The Bible presents the solution to the problem to be Jesus Christ living in us and doing God's will through us. The key to this knowing and doing is called "fellowship" with Him. The most important principle to understand and believe is that "fellowship is sensitive." In other words, if I am in fellowship with Christ, I will be sensitive to His will.

Putting first things first, then, means making my relationship with Jesus Christ the first and most important thing in my life. Communication from Him through His word,

the Bible, and communion with Him in prayer become of primary importance. My attitudes of love and obedience to God, and my strong desire and determination to serve strengthen and deepen this fellowship. A spirit of examination and confession of wrong keeps it from being spoiled by bad decisions and actions.

Here are some of the Bible verses which help us to understand our relationship with Jesus Christ and its importance to us.

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:20).

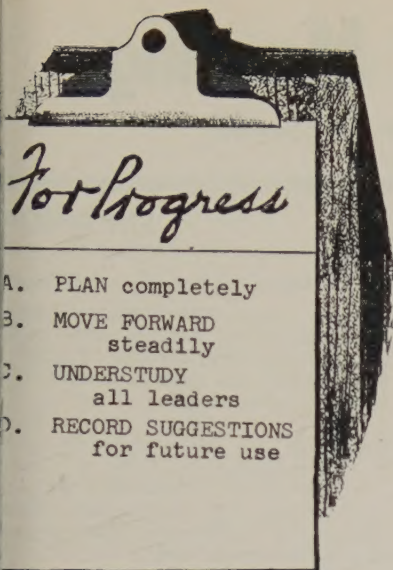
"Do not yield your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but yield yourselves to God as men who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For God has done this: the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do; sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit." (Romans 6:8,3,4).

"... our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not live according to the truth; but if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin. He who says 'I know him' but disobeys his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him; but whoever keeps his word, in the love for God is perfected. By this we may be sure that we are in him: he who says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked" (I John 1:3, 6, 7:5, 6).

To face all the new decisions of the day should not bother me at all. The important thing is to know that I am not facing them alone. And if I am certain of this—certain that I am in fellowship with Jesus Christ—I am putting first things first.



WELCOME TO AMERICA—This greeting welcomed Rev. and Mrs. Arno Pagel at Wild Airport, New York City, when they arrived from Germany on June 6. Pictured are (from left to right) Ruth Ann Robinson, Milton Billard, Sister Ruth Rhenius, Sister Emilie Hagel, Mrs. Pagel, Mr. Pagel, James R. West, Evelyn Purdy, and Louise McCracken. The sisters are from the Faith Tract Mission Fellowship Deaconry of Long Island City, New York. Rev. and Mrs. Pagel participated in Christian Endeavor conventions in Minnesota, Michigan, and North Carolina before attending the International Convention in Philadelphia.



- For Progress**
- A. PLAN completely
 - B. MOVE FORWARD steadily
 - C. UNDERSTUDY all leaders
 - D. RECORD SUGGESTIONS for future use

APPROPRIATE to the season when church programs accelerate is the ad-
to **PLAN completely**.

en planning programs over a period of
s—desirable for many units as well
gregations—you might consider these
objectives:

Seek substance. Through interest-find-
erries or surveys, discover what the
hould do to keep members alert, in-
ed, not mere spectators or bystanders
the church program. Only occasionally
a "spur-of-the-moment" type of pro-
be considered, and even then you
im at elements that will call for effort,
ity, impressions and ideas worth carry-
way into daily life.

Go for growth. Young Adult programs
d move along toward making higher
nds on the thinking and acting of the
members. Seek more maturity in pro-
than would be expected in younger
groups and even in the Young Adult
ams of a year or two ago.

Promote wide participation. Favor the
am, whether of discussion or devotions
creation, that will widen the number
ng in leadership, participating im-
ptu, contributing "extras" through their
interests and abilities to whatever was
ed in advance.

Foster variety. Change themes and em-
s from time to time. Repeat a program
went over well a year or two ago, but
it a few different touches. Urge newer
bers to contribute ideas that might be
miliar to your unit.

sure to **MOVE FORWARD steadily**,
or this is essential to progress in our
of work. There will be delays some-
s, when a leader is ill or out of town
nder seasonal business or professional
ures. Some of those we invite to serve
me manner will delay about accepting
communicating on what they need in

the way of help from the unit. Our leader-
ship must keep clock and calendar in mind
and follow up tactfully. Sometimes there
must be a quick shift in planning, by which
the January and February emphasis, for
example, are transposed.

CLOSELY related to steady progress on
course is the advice: **UNDERSTUDY**
all leaders. We shall designate a vice-
chairman for any important committee—
or ask the chairman to select this associate
and to notify the unit who his stand-in is.
The one who backs up the leader is
usually, but not invariably, one who is
in training for a progression into leadership
—an apprentice, to use the historic term.
But the Young Adult who has been chair-
man, vice-president, president, also has
great usefulness to his or her unit as a vice-
chairman or understudy. Such an arrange-
ment gives experienced support to the top
person in a given sector of the unit's or the
church's work, and likewise retains the
interest and active participation of a Young
Adult who might otherwise drift away after
serving capably in several offices.

DURING the present term of office, let
us **RECORD SUGGESTIONS** for
future progress. There will always be af-
terthoughts when a meeting or a group of ac-
tivities comes to a close. Also there will be
good suggestions made during the present
term that for one reason or another we don't
get a chance to utilize. Entries on cards or
in a loose-leaf book should be made
ready for the work of the coming seasons.
One of the best services of an outgoing
team of workers is to provide for the in-
coming group a number of suggestions as
to improvements, unfinished tasks, ideas
we couldn't use, persons who could be in-
vited to help.

COMING EVENTS For Your Prayer Calendar

Here is a list of Christian Endeavor con-
ventions and conferences which will be held
in the next few months. Remember these
events in your daily Quiet Hour.

AUGUST

- 1-8—Ontario, Chesley Lake
- 8-15—New York, Lake Canandaigua
- 10-14—Virginia, Bridgewater
- 27-29—Indiana, Indianapolis
- 30-September 5—Oregon, Camp Adams
- 31-September 7—Missouri, Troy

SEPTEMBER

- 4-6 —Ohio, Round Lake (Conference)
- 5-7 —Illinois, Camp Cilca (Retreat)
- 5-7 —Michigan, Waldenwoods (Retreat)
- 18-20—Wisconsin, Green Lake
- 25-27—Maryland, Colora

OCTOBER

- 2-3 —New Jersey, Pluckemin
- 9-11—Great Lakes Region
- 10-12—Ontario, Fort Erie
- 30-November 1—Southern Region,
Montreat, North Carolina

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WEEK 1960

Right now begin planning for the cele-
bration of Christian Endeavor's 79th birth-
day. The 1960 Christian Endeavor Week
packet is just off the press—just 50c for an
envelope packed full of materials for a
successful observance of Christian En-
deavor's anniversary. In addition to an
expanded manual and radio and television
scripts, the packet contains samples of the
sparkling new place mats and napkins,
designed to match the colorful new bulletin
covers. Order your packet now from
Christian Endeavor headquarters in Colum-
bus, Ohio.

The Christian Endeavor Meeting A Self-Rating Check List for Christian Endeavor Societies

Can you truthfully answer "yes" to all questions? (Each "yes" is worth 4 points. There
are 25 questions. Total—100 points.)

I. Preparation

- | | NO | YES |
|---|-------|-------|
| 1. Was the meeting, including topic, given advance publicity? | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Was the leader given at least two weeks' notice in order to make adequate preparation? | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Was the leader supplied with material? | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Did the leader make advance assignments? | _____ | _____ |

II. The Meeting

- | | | |
|--|-------|-------|
| 1. Was it preceded by a pre-prayer circle? | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Did it begin on time? | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Was there a good song service? | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Did the meeting create a worship atmosphere? | _____ | _____ |
| 5. Was there appropriate special music? | _____ | _____ |
| 6. Was Scripture reading and prayer given a place in the meeting? | _____ | _____ |
| 7. Did the introduction of the topic by the leader show signs of thought, previous study and enthusiasm? | _____ | _____ |
| 8. Did the pastor have a few remarks? | _____ | _____ |
| 9. Did everyone present participate? | _____ | _____ |
| 10. Did it have a definite closing? | _____ | _____ |

III. Mechanics

- | | | |
|---|-------|-------|
| 1. Were the ushers on the job? | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Was the group seated in a compact body? | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Were the visitors introduced? | _____ | _____ |
| 4. Was a record kept of attendance? | _____ | _____ |
| 5. Was a follow-up made of absentees? | _____ | _____ |
| 6. Was a person responsible in case the leader was absent? | _____ | _____ |
| 7. Did the meeting committee analyze the meeting? | _____ | _____ |
| 8. Were the topic and leader for the next Sunday night announced? | _____ | _____ |

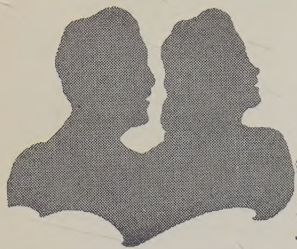
IV. Consequences of the Meeting

- | | | |
|---|-------|-------|
| 1. Did it create a desire to come again? | _____ | _____ |
| 2. Did it create a desire to bring others? | _____ | _____ |
| 3. Did it create a desire to know Christ and to serve Him better? | _____ | _____ |

Total grade or score (number of "yes's" times four) _____

WITH YOUNG ADULTS

By Bert H. Davis



How to Lead a Meeting

No. 1 in a Series: "'How To' Series"

I Corinthians 14:33,40

Senior-Young People (15-24 Years)

SEPTEMBER

Comments by Rev. Robert Hess*

Aim

To discover how to prepare the best devotional meeting possible for the honor of Christ and the Church.

Publicity

Announcement in church bulletin; request pastor to make a special plug. Dialog announcement in Sunday school department. Cards to all members. Telephone committee call everyone Sunday afternoon as a reminder.

Plan

The counselor might well take the leadership of this meeting, recruiting each member of the executive group to take part as outlined. The Program Committee chairman would be next in line, or perhaps a county or state officer from your church or especially invited in. At the conclusion of the meeting time will be taken to rate the participation.

Program Outline

- 6:15 Pre-Prayer Service
 - 6:30 Prelude—solo voice singing, *Where He Leads Me I Will Follow*
 - 6:33 Singing—led by three different youth, each introducing his song: *The Church's One Foundation, More Like the Master, and Living for Jesus.*
 - 6:40 Season of Prayer (ten items should be written out and given to young people to pray in order)
 - 6:45 Announcements and Offering; special musical number during offering
 - 6:50 Introduction of subject. Leader's remarks, followed by one minute for each officer from material under "Introduction" section
 - 6:55 Scripture Portion (use the Daily Readings on Page 26, letting seven young people give the heading and read the Scriptures)
 - 7:00 Essentials in Preparation of Meeting. One minute for each committee chairman from seed thoughts under "Preparation" section
 - 7:05 Discussion of Program Elements. Some suggestions are given under program helps below and can be expanded by those who take each part of the discussion. These also should be pre-assigned. Let the society add to the thoughts suggested.
 - 7:18 Song: *Give of Your Best to the Master*
 - 7:20 Rate your meeting, using Check List on Page 9
 - 7:24 One verse of hymn: *For Christ and the Church*
 - 7:25 Mizpah Benediction
- Go at once to the evening service.

*Mr. Hess is field secretary of the California Christian Endeavor Union.

Introduction

Talk 1 (President)

The leader should understand the purpose and principles of a devotional meeting. Praise and worship of God. Prayer with God. Frank discussions of the Christian life. Enable young people to face life situations. Inspire to wholesome living. Train youth for leadership. Give expression for inner convictions. Provide participation by all. Enable leadership to be rotated. Training in service for Christ and Church.

Talk 2 (Vice-President)

Consider various types of meeting. Presentation from individual research. Following suggested written topics. Discussion type—modern problems in the light of Christian principles. Group leadership—multiple leaders, buzz group sessions, and the like. Always a Bible-centered approach.

Talk 3 (Secretary)

Importance of the leader. Success or failure of a meeting depends largely on this individual. Test of a Christian life is what can be given out from the mind and example. We learn to lead by leading. Eternal destinies are at stake.

Talk 4 (Treasurer)

When tempted to say "no" to leading; do not offer excuses, ("I've never led before," "I'm afraid of the crowd," or "I made a failure last time") but rather know that it will strengthen your good determinations, quicken your zeal for Christ, commit you more definitely as a Christian, and allow you to influence others by your example and words.

Preparation

Talk 1 (Program Committee Chairman)

Agreement to topic. Follow suggestions of Program Committee as they meet with you. Let the truth of it possess you. Make it experience-centered. Draw applications for Christian living.

Talk 2 (Lookout Committee Chairman)

Use the means at hand. Consult with your counselor often. Converse with pastor and youth director. Consider topic with Christian friends. Read widely on the subject. Practice speaking with a helpful friend. Use THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD and other helpful materials.

Talk 3 (Missionary Committee Chairman)

Procedures. Prepare well in advance. Keep a notebook for ideas as they come. Pray earnestly for guidance. Write out material in full—then reduce to notes for reference only. Have additional material ready.

Talk 4 (Church Activity Chairman)

Programming. Set purpose or goal or aim. Plan for each one to participate. Have Scripture verses or questions or quotations or illustrations written out for those who are to take part. Time meeting to get all in.

Talk 5 (Missionary Committee Chairman)

Some suggestions. Make introduction clear and simple. Let closing tie in the and bring youth to decision. Provide in program and setting. Arrange before or after meeting.

Program

Discuss all these elements.

Pre-Prayer. All participants should be present for last-minute briefing and of quietness with God.

Prelude. To quiet hearts and prepare them for devotional experience. Poem or Scripture verse should be followed by brief invocation.

Singing. Begin at stated time. Leader and pianist are chosen in advance and either on blackboard or with clear announcement present each song. Use verses such as hymn stories, antiphonal singing, etc. Use song at close that will lead to the next part of the program.

Special Numbers. Planned to clinch a subject. Give opportunity for reflection or development of talent of youth.

Prayer Time. Have usher at door to prevent disturbance during time. Present requests. Be sure all know who is praying and closes.

Announcements. Only to announce a subject, not discuss. Brief and to the point. Include introduction of guests. Give opportunity for visiting Christian Endeavor officer to speak briefly.

Offering. Assigned in advance. Include musical accompaniment. Provide time for items to take away talking, etc.

Scripture Reading. Reader should be prepared ahead. Two can alternate, or use responsibly, or use loudspeaker, screen dramatization.

Discussion. Every one take part. Program Committee make record and report participation. Buzz groups, teams, other means of group participation. There should be open any time for discussion. Provide question boxes, debates, and variety.

Closing. Plan it carefully with eternal values in view. Allow a place for summary by counselor or pastor. Make careful decisions. Use personal testimonies of those to draw others. Close with the benediction. Plan a consecration service each month.

Resource Material

Secure *How to Lead* (.20) and *Meetings for the Young People's Society* (\$1.00) from International Society of Christian Endeavor, Columbus, Ohio.

Spell word l-e-a-d-e-r down a vertical column. Have group suggest a word phrase beginning with each letter that characterizes a successful leader.

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR

How to Lead a Meeting

No. 1 in a Series: "'How To' Series"

I Corinthians 14:33,40



for High (12-14 Years)

SEPTEMBER 6

Comments by Mrs. Aldis L. Webb*

Leading the Meeting

Publicize this meeting as a BETTER MEETINGS WORKSHOP, or a HOW TO WORKSHOP. Get the entire Prayer or Devotional Committee together to talk about and plan for this meeting. These groups might like to start the meeting with a very short demonstration of how to lead a meeting.

Showing this quickly and quietly resembles a symposium. Different members of the Devotional Committee (asked in advance) can present the various suggestions for BETTER MEETINGS acrostic which can be written on chalkboard or on a piece of paper where all can see it.

Leader's Statement

Leader of any meeting ask yourself, "What is the purpose for which this particular meeting is being held?" Unless you know what the purpose is, and the group are trying to attain, more than one purpose the meeting will be aimless. It is essential that the purpose of this meeting is to help us all learn HOW to lead a Christian Endeavor meeting.

Before Every Meeting—Pray

For the purpose of the meeting has been established, we must realize that it will proceed unless we ask God's guidance. It is also vital to the spiritual life of the society. It really helps the leader to work with members of the Devotional Committee and any others who are really interested for a few minutes of definite, earnest prayer just before the meeting.

Preparation

In preparing the meeting, we should consider how and what to do to accomplish our purpose. As early as possible give out the materials to those who will help. Impress upon them the importance of preparation. Ask them to be at the prayer service before the meeting. Check all details. Leave nothing to chance. A meeting never just happens!

Topics

The topics in THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD have been selected according to the best judgment of the members of the Topics Committee of the International Society. They have been selected because they are considered timely and suitable for Junior Highs and Senior-Young people in our world today.

Testimonies Invited

One of the aims of Christian Endeavor is that boys and girls may be influenced for Christ at our meetings. There will be times when we tell what Jesus Christ has done for us and how He helps us in our everyday lives. No one can win a boy or girl to Christ as easily as another young person tells his friend about Him.

Mrs. Webb is a long-time Endeavorer from Astoria, Oregon, having served as sponsor for many Junior High groups and as a state officer.

BETTER MEETINGS

Before every meeting—Pray

Early preparation

Timely topics

Testimony invited

Everyone participating

Reverent atmosphere

Music appropriately chosen

Enthusiastic singing

Earnest praying

Timid members encouraged

Inspiring worship periods

New and novel ideas used

Guided discussion

Start on time—Stop on time; Stay for church

Everyone Participating

Leaders of meetings should plan to make participation as unanimous as possible. Boys and girls are more interested and enjoy meetings more when they have had a part in making the meeting successful. Usually those who have part in the meeting should know in advance what and where their part will be. Those who take the important parts should not always be the same ones or the society will seem to others to be a clique.

Reverent Atmosphere

Ours is a Christ-centered organization. Our motto is *For Christ and the Church*. This does not mean that we are to have a sanctimonious, holier-than-thou attitude, but it does mean that we respect our Father enough to show reverence for Him in His House.

Music Appropriately Chosen

Select hymns that are in keeping with the theme of the meeting, and that are familiar to the group, unless you are teaching a new one. Study the words in all verses, and do not always sing the first, second and last verses. Be sure that the prayer hymn is addressed to God, and is a real prayer hymn. Try to have special music, which should always help to carry out the theme of the meeting.

Enthusiastic Singing

Do not imagine that enthusiasm destroys the spiritual tone of the meeting. Enthusiasm is just another way of saying action. The meeting should move along from the opening song to the closing prayer. The enthusiasm with which you sing and carry on the rest of the meeting may make a difference as to whether those who might be there for the first time come back again.

Earnest Praying

We learn to pray by praying. The sentence prayer is a wonderful way to start—and make it a sentence! The leader may suggest definite topics for prayer. Pray for your missionaries by name. Make your prayers definite.

Timid Members Encouraged

The more timid members should neither be pushed nor overlooked. An appropriate poem or Bible verse may be given them to read. Help those who hesitate to see that if they trust in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, He will give it. Sometimes it helps a timid boy or girl to share respon-

sibilities of a meeting with a more experienced leader. Have a Twin meeting or a Triangle meeting, with three leaders.

Inspiring Worship Periods

This may come at the opening or closing of the meeting, whichever suits the purpose of the meeting best. Vary the service, trying to use at least one different idea each week. For example, sometimes the Scripture may be given in unison, sometimes responsively, sometimes from memory, and sometimes use different versions. Whoever reads the Scripture should practice aloud several times and be sure to pronounce all words correctly. Sometimes a hymn may be given as a choral reading. A hymn story is good. Develop the talents of the group by using solos, duets, trios, etc.

New and Novel Ideas Used

Variety is the spice of life. There are many ways to present a topic. A symposium, as we are using tonight, a forum, a panel, a debate, an interview type of meeting, a question box, quiz program, slides or other visual aids. Then there are ideas such as football meeting, biography, leaderless, first-step, campfire, candlelight, outdoor, progressive, etc. Do not try to use more than one or two such ideas at any one meeting.

Guided Discussion

The prepared leader will not allow the meeting to get on a tangent. He will not do all of the talking but will guide the discussion. He should be prepared with extra material which he can use in case of a lull.

Start on Time; Stop on Time; Stay for Church

The only way to get people to be on time is to start on time whether most of the group have arrived or not. If you start late, boys and girls will come late. Stop in time for greeting visitors before going to the church service.

To the Sponsor

It is very important that you meet with the Devotional Committee as they plan this meeting. Secure several copies of THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD and other helps. Prepare a display. Junior Highs should know there are helps available. Some of these are *How to Lead, Better Meetings, Junior High (Intermediate) Program Guide Packet, Christian Endeavor Essentials*, as well as other state or union materials. Helps may be secured from the International Society or your state headquarters.

Questions (to be directed to members of symposium)

1. Why wouldn't it be a good idea to list the leaders for at least a month in advance on a poster?
2. How can we have better publicity for our meetings?
3. Are we keeping a scrapbook of good ideas? Do we keep a file of our CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLDS and discussion materials that we find in our Sunday school papers?



How to Read the Bible

No. 2 in a Series: "'How To' Series"

Luke 4:16-20; I Timothy 4:13

Senior-Young People (15-24 Years)

SEPTEMBER

Comments by Rev. Walter C. Schaeffer*

Aim

To become familiar with some of the more important principles of reading and speaking in public. To practice reading under critical guidance with the aim of improving one's ability to read meaningfully.

Promoting the Meeting

Ask the pastor to include announcements of the meeting in the church bulletin. Prepare posters for the church bulletin board inviting young people to have their voice recorded. Try to convey the idea that the meeting will be a kind of workshop to discover and correct faults in reading publicly.

For the Leader

One of the tragedies of the Protestant Church is the slipshod manner in which Scripture is so often read from the pulpit. This meeting should provide help in two ways. The first part of the meeting might be devoted to a discussion of the more important principles of public speaking. Invite a teacher who is responsible for speech correction and instruction at a nearby school or college to sit in on the meeting as a resource leader.

To receive the greatest amount of help from this meeting it will be best to have a tape recorder at your disposal. Many churches have such a device, but if not, perhaps you can ask your pastor if he has one. It might also be possible to borrow one from a nearby church, or if you are able to secure a teacher who does this kind of work daily, he or she may be willing to bring one along. In any event, remember that you are handling an expensive precision instrument which must be used with care. If possible appoint someone who is familiar with the particular recorder to be responsible for its operation.

Advance Preparation

Since one of the principles of good public reading is familiarity with the text to be read, it follows that each member of the society should be assigned a portion of Scripture at least a week in advance. These Scripture selections should be long enough to permit the reader to overcome the first pangs of stage fright and advance to a smoother and more enjoyable experience in reading. Perhaps twenty to thirty verses would be satisfactory. The verses should be selected so that they do not contain an undue number of difficult names. When distributing the selected Scriptures, be sure to instruct each individual to read the selection often enough during the week to be familiar with it on the night of the meeting.

Techniques of Public Reading

Probably the first impression that should be made upon the people present is

SUGGESTED PROGRAM OUTLINE

Pre-Prayer Service
Call to Worship: Colossians 3:16
Hymn: *Break Thou the Bread of Life*
Invocation and Lord's Prayer
Scripture: Luke 4:16-20; I Timothy 4:13
Sentence Prayers
Announcements
Offering
Hymn: *We've a Story to Tell to the Nations*
Discussion of Techniques of Public Reading
Practice and Criticism of Reading
Hymn: *I Love to Tell the Story*
Benediction

the character of Holy Writ. Important as it is to read any item clearly and with meaning, when we have the opportunity to bring the Word of God to people we have an added responsibility to do it to the best of our ability. This responsibility must never be taken lightly.

Some of the techniques to be considered are as follows:

1. Be familiar with the reading matter. Be familiar enough to have memorized some passages. On the other hand, do not make so great a show of your familiarity that you attract attention to yourself rather than to the words that you are bringing to the listeners.

2. Speak louder than usual; much louder. No soul has ever been won to Christ by words that the individual could not hear. All of the time and effort you have put into preparing to read correctly will be wasted if you are unable to project your voice to every person in the audience.

3. Allow the meaning of the passage you are to read to permeate your own mind so that you feel you have a message to convey.

4. Read slowly. The larger the audience, and thus the farther you have to project your voice, the slower you have to read. Since you are trying to convey thoughts to others, you have to read slowly enough to allow your hearers to grasp the ideas.

5. Play the roll of the character in the passage. Try to think as the original writer was thinking when the passage was written. By the use of voice inflection give emphasis to that portion which seems most important. When reading a portion of Scripture which contains a discussion between two or more persons, try to keep the words of each character separated in the minds of your listeners. This can be done by turning your head in one direction when reading the words of one particular character and then turning your head in a different direction when reading the words of another character. The same effect may be obtained by using a different pitch of the voice for each character speaking in the passage.

6. Maintain eye contact. This means simply that frequently during the reading the reader looks up from the passage and looks for a moment at the audience. To do this the reader must be very familiar with the passage.

The resource leader will probably use other techniques to suggest. Take over. Let each Endeavorer decide which technique should be emphasized in his own case. If possible let each one practice for a few moments.

Practice and Criticism

If a recorder is available, allow each Endeavorer to record a short part of an assigned Scripture passage. Play it back immediately. The first reaction will be one of curiosity about how each person's voice sounds. Usually it will be some form of a disappointment. Allow each person to be present to become accustomed to his own voice before trying to correct flaws in technique of reading.

Begin to record the entire passage assigned to each member. While the recording is being made, have the rest of the group take notes of mistakes that were shown up in the recording—things like lack of contact, gestures, posture, etc.

When the playback is completed, each reader should have the first opportunity to criticize himself. After the reader has completed his own opinion of the recording, open the meeting to constructive criticism by all the members. Try to impress each member with the fact that all criticism should be made in a positive vein. Instead of saying "You did not speak loudly enough," say, "It might help if you spoke louder."

Though your aim is to find and correct the reading limitations of each, it must be remembered that we are trying to build not only the technical skill of each Endeavorer, but the confidence of each as well. Thus the atmosphere of the meeting should be one of helpfulness and Christian charity.

After all have had an opportunity to record and correct their reading, it is only right that each one be given the opportunity to incorporate what has been learned into actual practice. Therefore, while the meeting may be longer than usual, allow each person to record a portion of his passage in an effort to correct mistakes made in the first recording.

Application

How can we put what we have learned into practice? How can we use these skills to improve our meetings as well as our Christian witness?

As a result of this meeting, an awareness of reading faults will have been created, as well as a desire to correct them. From time to time suggest that the members remain for a few moments at the meeting for the purpose of expressing their gratitude for Scripture which has been well read, or a talk which has been well presented. In this way, we not only have been able to correct poor reading habits, we will also be able to create a love for the truths of Scripture, as well as an appreciation for the efforts of each Endeavorer to serve Christ well.

*Mr. Schaeffer is minister of the Presbyterian Church of East Bethany, New York, and a former field secretary of the New York State Union.

How to Read the Bible

No. 2 in a Series: "'How To' Series"

Luke 4:16-20; 1 Timothy 4:13



For High (12-14 Years)

SEPTEMBER 13

Comments by Rev. Chester Hirschy*

Best Finder

When we face the fact that many are trying to destroy the Bible as the true Word of God, have the leader prepare a little skit. The leader and sponsor should contact the church and seek to have this skit presented at the morning worship service, or in the day school period.

Have the skit have a boy and girl walk to the front of the church with the boy saying, "I don't believe that the Bible is the strong, only for the weak. After all, there are many mistakes recorded." The girl should say, "But it is the truth, for I have read it and it is a mirror for my life." Then the leader could come out and announce the Christian Endeavor hour and subject, "How to Read the Bible."

Worship Suggestions

Prayer Service
Singing Prayer
Hymns: *Living for Jesus; Blest Be the Tie that Binds*; Each person gives his favorite Scripture verse
Silent Prayers
Lessons or Announcements
Sermon's Talk
Bible Lesson
Singing Prayer (join hands in a circle of prayer)

For the Leader

Plan this service as if it were your last. It may be the last opportunity that you will receive to discuss such an important subject as how to read the Bible. At least a week ahead request that every Christian Endeavorer do his best to try a definite plan for reading the Bible and come prepared to discuss his plan along with the comments at the evening.

Sermon's Talk

How many here tonight believe that the Bible is the Word of God? If we believe then the Bible must contain some valuable information for our life. For us to find this information we will have to have a definite plan in mind of the way to read the Bible. When we find such a plan then we should work it.

The Bible tells that the Lord has great plans for us as young people. Ecclesiastes 1:1 says: "Remember now thy creator in the days of thy youth."

The Bible is the traveler's map, the soldier's sword, the pilot's compass, and the Christian's charter. Read the Bible slowly, patiently and prayerfully.

Bible Flash No. 1

When we find the plan of God for our life as a young person if we never read the Bible except on Sunday? Paul tells Timothy to "study to show."

Chester Hirschy is pastor of the Oakdell United Methodist Church in Christ Church, a new congregation in Dayton, Ohio.

THE AIMS

1. To help youth to be able to read the Bible.
2. To help them understand what they read in God's Word.
3. To help them use what they read as they study the Bible.

others that we have found the plan of life from the Bible we will have to study it.

Bible reading only on Sunday or just now and then may give us pet ideas which may never lead us to a deep faith in God's word. We never select favorite passages of the Bible which mean much to us by this type of Bible reading.

A young man began to drink and later in this state of being drunk he found Christ as his Saviour. Everyone said he would not be true. Do you think this type of Bible reading would help him to be true? No, he stayed true because he had a plan for regular Bible reading.

Bible Flash No. 2

Some young people say they read the Bible every day. Their method of reading is a hit or miss type. In their hurry between all the fun of the day they grab the Bible and quickly open it. Wherever the pages open they read a few verses and then feel that they have studied God's Word. Have they?

Some young people never read certain books of the Bible, one of which might be Revelation. In Revelation 1:3 we read: "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand."

We can see that even though this kind of reading is better than the first type, yet it is really not reading the Bible as God wants us to.

Bible Flash No. 3

One young man stated that he has read the New Testament many times and that he feels it is not necessary to read the Old Testament in our present day. What do you think?

Can we find out the true reason for the birth and death of Jesus Christ if we never read the Old Testament? How do we know man is in sin and in need of a Saviour if we omit reading even the book of Genesis?

To see God's plan and how it applies to our life as a young person we need to have a knowledge of the development of man and also to realize that man never seems to get better without Jesus Christ as his Saviour.

Without the Old Testament which looks toward the cross we would feel that all those who lived before Christ would have been lost, but they were saved by the faith of Abraham.

Bible Flash No. 4

The story is told about a small orphan girl living in an orphanage who would drop

a small note from a window saying, "If anyone finds this, I love you." One of the notes was found and the girl was adopted by a wonderful mother who loved her.

Do you think the Bible is such a love note? Yes, God gave us a whole book, not just a small note. For a young person the Bible contains great helps. When we become discouraged we can read Isaiah 40. In our lonely times or times of fears we can read Psalm 23. If our faith needs stirring we should read Hebrews 11. There comes a time in our life when Satan tempts us by painting a picture that the world is bigger than God; then we should read Psalm 90. For the courage needed to become adults we need to read Joshua 1.

For real happiness read Colossians 3:12-17, especially verse 17, "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by Him." Is this true for the youth of today? As we can see, this is another type of Bible reading.

Bible Flash No. 5

Since we have considered the former methods let us now consider certain methods which are almost a "must" for us to really enjoy our Bible. In answer to the question, "How should we read the Bible?" we find that God expects us to read *all* of the Bible.

We should start with the beginning of the Old Testament and read to the very end of Revelation; we must read at least all the verses which refer to a story or event. It is preferred if time permits to read at least a chapter. We might read an entire book with the idea of finding the purpose and aim that the writer is expressing.

The most important fact to remember in reading the Bible is that it contains the story that man sinned, and that God sent His Son to save us, if we believe on Him by faith. I John 1:9 says: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." If we read the Bible in this manner and with these things in mind it will be a living guide for our life.

Things To Do

Send out all the Christian Endeavorers with a definite plan for reading the Bible. They are to report the next week on their findings. Send out teams to interview different people about their plan in reading the Bible. Start a definite drive to place a Bible into the hands of every Christian Endeavorer, also giving them a plan of Bible study.

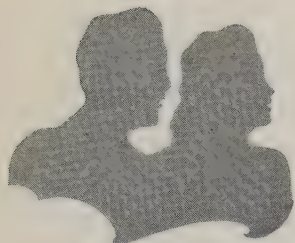
Closing the Meeting

A train hit a carload of scouts; eight young girls were killed. How would you use your Bible to help the loved ones to find strength, comfort and courage to go on with life? Find some verses of Scripture that you feel would help. Then pray together silently, thanking God for a Bible which we can use to help ourselves and others as we travel life together.

How to Pray

No. 3 in a Series: "'How To' Series"

Luke 11:1-4



Senior-Young People (15-24 Years)

SEPTEMBER

Comments by Rev. J. Wesley Siebert*

Program Suggestions

Use a picture in the worship center that will focus attention on the theme of the meeting; for example, Hoffman's "Christ in Gethsemane" or Dürer's "Prayer Hands."

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 6:5-15 or Luke 11:5-13 or Psalm 121.

Hymns may include *I Would Be True*, *Sweet Hour of Prayer*, *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*, *An Evening Prayer*, etc.

Special Music: Have someone sing *The Lord's Prayer* or *The Beautiful Garden of Prayer*.

Need for Prayer

According to St. Luke 11:1, after the disciples had observed Jesus at prayer, they came to Him and pleaded, "Lord, teach us to pray." Not only had they observed their Master at prayer, but they had observed the power and effectiveness of His life which they came to understand was the result of His prayer life. They looked at their own lives in contrast and came to realize their need if they would bring their lives up to His standard.

Ours may be described as a "prayerless age." And yet, the rewards of prayer are tremendous. It is a sin to be weak, ineffective and bungling in our efforts when prayer is constantly available. So often we seek after our own ends and our own selfish desires, coming to the end of the day with a sense of failure and frustration. If we then take time to analyze the difficulty, we will become convinced that we have been trying to run on our own strength instead of "waiting upon the Lord" (Isaiah 40:31).

Learn to Say "Our"

In His reply to the disciples, Jesus' first word struck an important note for all of our praying. "When ye pray, say, Our"—our Father, "our daily bread," "our debts," etc. He did not intend us to use this form merely when we are together in groups because He had just said to the disciples, "When thou prayest, enter into thy closet and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret." Even there, where each is alone, we are not to say "I" and "me" and "mine," but "our."

There are so many disruptive forces in the world today that tend to pull us apart, while at the same time modern communications are bringing us into ever closer proximity. A sense of community or "togetherness" can only be developed as we learn to say "our."

They say that in Wagner's opera, "Die Walküre" there are a million notes, but what makes the opera great is the way the artist combined these isolated items into a

AIMS

1. To cultivate a growing interest in prayer.
2. To develop an understanding of the nature of prayer.
3. To encourage regular habits of prayer.
4. To enroll Comrades of the Quiet Hour.

cooperating community, each contributing something to the rest. In other words, Wagner made a million notes say "our" and the result was a great work of music.

Even in the animal kingdom, the solitary animals have practically disappeared from the earth and we review their remains in museums of natural history—the ichthyosaurs and dinosaurs. But those that banded together into colonies, hives, flocks, herds or packs have survived. Again, those that learned to say "our" have had a greater survival power.

This truth is especially relevant in the area of our religion and specifically in the context of prayer. It is so easy to allow our prayer life to become centered in the "me," "my," and "mine."

Trust and Praise

Another area of caution in our prayers is the thought that prayer is not begging. The more self-centered we are, the more will our prayers consist merely of requests. Prayer should include expressions of faith, trust and praise. We must come to know God as the psalmist knew Him when he said, "The eternal God is thy refuge," and underneath are the everlasting arms.

A beloved teacher often shared his experience of how he gained new poise and strength when under particular strain. He would relax in a trusting expression of confidence in God, using the words of Isaiah, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Thee" (26:3). This, too, is prayer. Prayer in its simplest form is simply resting back in confidence upon a divine personality who is intimately known, whose presence enfolds us and whose strong arms are ever beneath us.

Prayer, further, should give expression to the great affirmations of our faith—the greatness, the goodness, and the mercy of God. "The Lord is my Shepherd," "Hallowed be Thy name," "The Lord of Hosts is with us," "The God of Jacob is our refuge." This is putting the great convictions of faith which empower and dignify the soul at the center of one's mind.

Spiritual Companionship

Then, too, prayer is a spiritual companionship. It is the prayer which says with Jesus, "I am not alone, because the Father is with me." Brother Lawrence in the Middle Ages said, "Prayer establishes ourselves in a sense of God's presence by continually conversing with Him."

It is here that the searchlight falls upon us. So many use prayer merely as an

emergency measure. Men get into a place and then try to pray themselves out of it. As the psalmist says, "They have made their wits end. Then they cry unto the Lord in their trouble."

That is third-rate prayer. Men will let God, never have time for worship or private prayer until they are overtaken by calamity, then they suddenly expect to be sort of a bellhop who will run errands for them as they frantically push buttons.

That is not the way we treat friends. The glory of the unseen Friend is in habitual companionship. Then, when emergency comes, we go, like Jesus in the Garden, along a familiar path to the one who can empower us to resist temptation or to meet the responsibilities of the day.

Regular Habits of Prayer

In other words, we need to develop regular habits of prayer. The ideal place, of course, is to have a regular time and place for prayer. In most instances, morning is the best time. However, for those who are one of those people who are slow to get going in the morning, you may be more alert at some other time. You will want to be at your best when you pray and bring the physical and mental exhaustion of the day to your regular prayer time.

A familiar place of prayer also has many advantages. Jesus had His accustomed places of prayer. A place that has many experiences associated with it is conducive to an awareness of God's presence that is most helpful. Perhaps you will have a small private altar set up with your Bible and other devotional literature laid out. Many young people find that their favorite picture of Christ hung in this place of prayer also helps them bring their thoughts reverently into the attitude of prayer.

Christian Endeavor through the years has called this time of prayer "The Quiet Hour." The International Society of Christian Endeavor keeps a record of those who are "Comrades of the Quiet Hour." A helpful six-page folder written by Brother J. Gordon Howard, "What Is the Quiet Hour?" can be secured from Christian Endeavor Headquarters in Columbus, Ohio. This would be an ideal time for each member of the society to be pledging himself to set apart at least fifteen minutes every day for quiet meditation and communion with God.

For Discussion

1. Why is the Lord's Prayer a model prayer?
2. What good is praying?
3. Can you give instances of prayer answered?
4. Does God answer even when the answer is "No"?
5. Is "I'm too busy" ever an excuse for not praying?
6. Do we ever pray in ignorance? (Mark 10:38)

*Mr. Siebert is minister of the Zion Evangelical United Brethren Church of Elmira, Ontario, Canada.

How to Pray

No. 3 in a Series: "'How To' Series"

Luke 11:1-4



Junior High (12-14 Years)

SEPTEMBER 20

Comments by Mrs. George West*

Noting the Meeting

Display in a conspicuous place a large poster with a boy or a girl talking on the telephone in the lower left corner with telephone wire running up the poster to another corner. Large lettering might say, "Are you in contact with God? Come to Junior Christian Endeavor September 20th 6:30 p.m. sharp to hear how to maintain a private connection with Heaven." Give the meeting place and leader's name if you can.

Arrange for an announcement in your church bulletin, if possible.

Send postcards to members and guests the same idea as poster. This time in the upper right corner, put, "Who is on the other end of the line? Come to Christian Endeavor prayer night at 6:30 (place) and find out."

Suggested Program Outline

Prayer Service

Worship: Play familiar songs (5 minutes)

Opening Song: *Blessed Assurance*

Prayer (by someone near the rear of the room)

Worship Service: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness; O One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus; Am Praying for You; Just a Little Talk With Jesus; Sweet Hour of Prayer.*

Introduction of Guests

Announcements

Prayer with Music

Worshipal Music: *Begin Each Day With Jesus*
Presentation and Discussion of the Topic
Problem Discussion

Opening Song: *Hear Our Prayer, O Lord*

Prayer

Christian Endeavor Benediction

How to Pray

The disciples, having been with Christ so long, learned to understand His wonderful power of prayer. From His Word we too may learn about this great life of prayer by the examples He has put in writing for us and me. (Luke 11:1-4) He was a master at this art. None could pray like him. So the disciples requested of Him, "Lord, teach us to pray."

As we grow to love our Lord, the hope of being like Him in His intercession gains attractiveness. In its beginning prayer is so simple that the smallest child can pray. At the same time it is the highest and best work to which we can rise. It is the channel of all blessings and the secret of power and life. It is to be practiced for practice makes perfect.

A pupil needs a teacher. In the passage mentioned above, Jesus gives a model prayer. "Father, may your name be honored, may your kingdom come. Give us each day the needed bread and forgive us our sins, we forgive all who owe us anything and keep us away from all temptation."

Mrs. West sponsors a college age Christian Endeavor group at Brooklyn Heights Presbyterian Church in San Diego, California, and has held many offices in the state union.

AIMS

1. To learn more about prayer.
2. To learn how to pray.
3. To deepen and strengthen our prayer life.
4. To study and understand Christ's model prayer.
5. To learn how to pray without ceasing.

QUESTIONS

1. If we are praying without ceasing, must we be straight-laced and poker-faced?
2. May we be certain all our prayers will be answered? (Matthew 7:7,8)
3. If our prayer is not answered, what is wrong? (James 4:3)
4. If we pray once every day and before meals, is that sufficient? (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

There are six parts to this prayer;

1. Love and honor His Name—this brings joy to our Father.

2. Look eagerly and pray for the coming of the Lord.

3. Supply our needs daily.

4. Forgive our sins which we have committed.

5. Help us forgive any who have wronged us.

6. Keep us from sinning.

This pattern includes everything, doesn't it? How simple it is to pray. How important prayer was to Christ. By His Holy Spirit, He has access to our heart and teaches us to pray by showing us the sin that hinders our prayer.

Answered Prayer a Certainty?

In the *Sermon on the Mount* Christ teaches us what the Scriptures consider the chief thing in prayer, the assurance of prayers being heard and answered. He repeats this promise often. "Ye shall receive—ye shall find—it shall be opened unto you." In this repetition He wants to impress upon our minds that we must confidently expect an answer to our prayer. Everyone that asketh receiveth. Prayer is our contact on earth with heaven. Our prayer on earth and God's answer in heaven are meant for each other.

Faith Is the Secret

In Mark 11:24 Christ says, "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." A great promise is this! We are instructed to believe that we receive the very things we ask.

Let us not use the phrase "If it be thy will" as a scapegoat for unanswered prayer. This may be our out for lack of faith. If our faith is weak and we pray for something we are not sure is God's Will, we use this to give Him an out.

God needs no out; it is our faith that is lacking. God has promised He will answer our requests. Ask and it shall be given unto you. Let's be definite for what we pray and then look for the answer. God says just to believe that we will receive the answer and we will receive the answer. In this passage how simple He has made it for us. The secret of believing prayer is faith.

Pray in Love

Love to our Father and love to our neighbor are inseparable. Faith and love are essential to each other. God will forgive us our sins as we forgive others. Our prayers are feeble without love and a forgiving attitude toward our fellow men. We pray, "Forgive, even as we have forgiven," Scripture says, "Forgive one another, even as God also in Christ forgave you." God forgives freely and so should we.

Pray Always

The Bible says to "Pray without ceasing." This means first to forget self and give ourselves to live for God. This enlarges our heart and teaches us to regard everything in the light of God's pleasure, not our own. To forget oneself, to live for God among our friends is the way to learn to pray without ceasing.

Have you ever tried meditating on things of the Lord while walking to school? Then you have witnessed the blessing of a joyful heart from this experience. It is possible to always be in the spirit of the Lord and experience this joy constantly, whether it be on the ball field, in the classroom, at home or while studying. God's presence is very near and very real.

What are our prayer habits? Always spoken, sometimes silent, like the Pharisee in public to be praised, or in the closet unnoticed? When we pray in Christian Endeavor and in public we should pray simply and sincerely; not for praise from our friends, not to hear them compliment us on a beautiful prayer, but to please God.

Spend much time in secret with God. This is how we really get acquainted with someone—not in a crowd but when we seek him out alone. Let us pour out our hearts to the Heavenly Father, who loves each of us.

Let us keep our communication constant with our Father through His Son. Christ is central who connects us with God. Let's keep our lines open for His constant fellowship. Do not have the line cluttered, giving God the busy signal so He cannot get through to us. Keep our minds and hearts in touch with Him at all times. Don't be tied up with many distractions on our party line, but enjoy clear, sweet, constant communion with our Heavenly Father through His Son Christ Jesus, our intercessor.

Real Life Situation

Johnny Moore walked close to God daily. He had been very busy in church activity all week and now it was time for the weekly quiz at school for which he had no time to study. It would be easy to get an "A" or "B" by looking over Jean's shoulder but this wouldn't please God. Should Johnny ask God to give him the answers to these questions he had never learned? How can we expect God to recall something to our minds we have never known? Would it be better for Johnny to pray that God would have the teacher ask the questions for which he knew the answers?



Auditing Ourselves

Romans 14:1-12

Senior-Young People (15-24 Years)

SEPTEMBER

Comments by Dr. M. Eugene Osterhaven*

Aim

To have a look at our spiritual assets and liabilities that we may know where we stand as stewards of the good things of God.

Promotion

Place a poster in the lobby of your church or in some other prominent spot depicting a bookkeeper's ledger opened with the caption on the left page reading "Assets" and that on the right page reading "Liabilities." At the top should appear the title "Auditing Ourselves," and the name of the society, Time and place of meeting should appear on the bottom.

Leader's Introduction

A good steward keeps a careful record of the state of the business which is entrusted to him and its progress. Let's make the audit of ourselves and the sacred work to which the Lord has called us as Christians.

I. Our Assets

A. *Glorious Christian heritage.* It is easy for us who have been favored all our life long with a Christian home and environment to take this all for granted and hardly consider the value of this asset. If we were to live for a while in a non-Christian country, however, we would have a new appreciation for the spiritual heritage which God has given us. The truth is that a godly inheritance is the richest gift which can be transmitted to us.

B. *A free church.* This too is often not counted as an asset, yet its blessing cannot be exaggerated. One needs but to think of the church in Nazi Germany or in certain Communistic countries today to be reminded of the importance of the church being free to preach the whole council of God, to propagate itself, to educate, and to carry out its evangelizing mission in the world. In a country in which the writer is deeply interested and with which he has strong ties the church is constantly harassed in its work. Preaching must not offend the government in any way, one-half of the theological schools have been closed including two over 400 years old, all other Christian institutions of learning and of mercy have been taken over by the government, Christian periodicals must follow the party line, and in other ways the work of the church is hampered. The same is true in other countries. Yet God continues to bless us with a free church.

C. *An educated leadership.* In today's world with all its knowledge and skills the church requires men and women in positions of influence to have training to equip them for their tasks. When leaders in other areas are trained it behooves the church to see that its leaders are prepared for society's most important task, that of leading men to Christ and making

PROGRAM OUTLINE

Pre-Prayer Service
Hymn: *The Church's One Foundation*
Scripture: Romans 14:1-12
Hymn: *Give of Your Best to the Master*
Sentence Prayers
Announcements and Offering
Hymn: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*
Leader's Talk
Discussion of Topic
Closing Hymn: *O Jesus, I Have Promised*
Benediction

Him known to them. And we *do* have trained leaders; this is cause for gratitude.

D. *An open Bible and literature.* As God's revelation to men concerning Himself, our sin-blinded nature, and salvation in Jesus Christ, the Bible still holds an incomparable place in all the world's literature. It is our chart and compass, our lamp and light. The *one* message that every man needs is contained therein. "The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the Word of the Lord abides forever" (I Peter 1:24f.). In addition to the Bible an abundance of literature is available to all who will use it. Give examples of this. What printed materials have done you good? What others have you heard of that might be helpful?

E. *The privilege of being in a church society such as Christian Endeavor.* This asset is so close to us that there is danger of our forgetting it altogether. Yet here we learn as a group of young people how to better appreciate our heritage and to serve Christ and the Church. How specifically has Christian Endeavor been an asset in your life? How could it become more of an asset in your life and that of your church?

II. Our Liabilities

A. *Greed.* This is one of our cardinal sins even though we fail to realize it. We desire more than we have, and usually it is for selfish reasons. The real motivating factor in many young people who go to college and later to professional school is desire for more of this world's goods. The farther along on the path of "success" some people go, the more they desire and the farther they are from true satisfaction and happiness. Christian idealism is almost eclipsed in the lives of many today. Why? Because of this monster which would destroy our usefulness in God's kingdom and ultimately our souls if it could.

B. *Laziness.* By nature each of us has this as a liability and real effort is required to overcome it. Only by determination and discipline can we become the useful Christians that we ought to be. What is it that gives us a poor meeting some weeks? Often it is laziness on the part of the leaders. What is it that keeps us from witnessing as we know we should? Laziness is one reason. What is it that prevents us from accomplishing the things that we would like to do? It is laziness again. If we would reduce this liability to a zero the

Lord's work would hasten forward and we would be happier disciples.

C. *Misuse of time.* The use of leisure is a prime problem in the area of stewardship, and it is a problem to all of us who have varying amounts of money and time, but each of us has twenty-four hours each day and seven days in the week. The old proverb goes: "Lost somewhere between sunrise and sunset, three golden hours studded with sixty diamond minutes; reward is offered for they are lost another forever." If we would sit down at the end of each day to consider the time we have wasted we would soon be shocked at doing something about this liability.

D. *A false sense of value.* All of us have heard the story about the prankster who entered a hardware store one night and changed the tags on numerous articles. The next morning lawn mowers were advertised as selling for \$3.00 a dozen and ping pong balls for \$9.98 each. That is a picture of life. In the night of sin our sense of value has gone awry. So persons value themselves on unworthy objectives and neglect that which is important. Popularity or pleasure are given high priority over virtue and achievement, which pay dividends in the long run, are minimized. A man or woman's real worth can be judged by his conception of value. "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness," says Jesus, and the *things* that are needed will be given us.

F. What else can you think of as liabilities in our audit? How about selfishness or other forms of sin? What are weaknesses which we see in ourselves and in Christians around us against which we should especially be on guard?

III. Dividends on Our Efforts

A. *God's share.* As stewards of the goodness of our life we take note of the dividends. How much of a share of our life do we give God? As Lord He deserves the best. Are we holding out on Him? What do we give?

B. *Our share.* Do we declare the dividends for ourselves? Of course, we get something out of the business for we are in it. What are we doing for ourselves? How well are we doing it?

C. *Our society's share.* How much are we giving our society? How clearly do we realize our responsibility to others, especially in the values that are most important?

Illustration

In one area of the world where there is considerable deception it is said that a businessman keeps three sets of books: one for the government, one for his partner, and one for himself. Is there any temptation for any of us to live this way, wearing a pious attitude at certain times and in certain places, and acting otherwise at other times and in other places? Just as no one would care to join a firm with less than one set of books, so Christ does not bless the "double life" with His presence.

*Dr. Osterhaven is professor of systematic theology of Western Theological Seminary, Holland, Michigan.

I Use My Abilities

Matthew 25:14-30



Junior High (12-14 Years)

SEPTEMBER 27

Comments by Mary Lou Funk*

Publicity

Make a poster with pictures of young people doing various acts of service: singing in the church choir, ushering, working on the church lawn, helping parents or neighbors, etc. Also include time, place and topic of the meeting.

On Sunday morning have an announcement by one or two of your members dressed in clothes they would wear for certain acts of service and have them carry appropriate equipment or tools. They might suggest that each person coming to the meeting do likewise.

Counselor

Use this topic, "I Use My Abilities," as a reminder to encourage your Christian Endeavor society to get as many people as possible to attend Christian Endeavor meetings and to participate in the meetings and other activities of the church.

"Use me or lose me" is the attitude of many junior high young people. Lead your society in winning other young people to Christ and in giving them something to do in His service.

Leader's Preparation

At least one week in advance:

1. Ask seven young people to read the daily Bible readings that go with this topic (see page 26). Assign each of the seven a specific one of the Bible readings. Ask them to give the thought of the reading in their own words at the Sunday evening meeting. Suggest that, for their own study, they read the passage in some of the modern translations of the Scriptures as well as in the King James version.

2. Arrange for a "brainstorming" committee. Explain to them how "brainstorming" works. Also tell them the problem they are to deal with and what they are to do at the Christian Endeavor meeting.

Suggested Program Outline

Prayer Service

Include: *Living for Jesus*

Song: *In the Service of the King*

Special Music: *Have I Done My Best for Jesus?*

Announcements and Offering

Leader's Introduction of Topic

List of the Daily Bible Readings

Brainstorming

Role Playing

Life Problems

Discussion Questions

Song: *There's a New Day Dawning*

Benediction

Leader's Introduction

(Have a gift-wrapped package in your hands or on the table in front of you.) We all like to receive gifts. All of us have

AIMS

1. To realize that God expects us to give a good account of all that He entrusts to us.
2. To recognize many of the abilities God has given to junior high young people.
3. To consider some specific ways these abilities can be used for the glory of God.

received many gifts—gifts from our family and friends, also many gifts from God.

Any person who gives something to us likes to see us use it and not just talk about it. So does God. The Bible makes it very plain that He commands and expects us to use them, and to use them to help others and to glorify Him.

A cowboy expressed it this way: "Lots of folks think that serving the Lord means shouting themselves hoarse, praising His name. Now, I'll tell you how I look at that. If I sit around the house telling what a good fellow my boss Jim is, and singing songs to him and getting up in the night to serenade him, I'd be doing just what a lot of Christians do. But it wouldn't suit Jim and I'd get fired mighty quick.

"But when I buckle on my chaps and hustle among the hills and see that Jim's herd is all right, not suffering for lack of water and feed, or getting off range and being branded by cattle thieves, then I'm proving my loyalty to Jim and serving him as he wants to be served."

An unknown poet has given us these lines:

If I have strength,
I owe the service of the strong;
If melody I have,
I owe the world a song.

God's gifts are like His flowers
Which show their right to stay

By giving all of their bloom
And fragrance away.

J. B. Chapman said: "If a man should hang his arm in a sling and refuse to make any use of it, within a few months that arm would lose its strength and become useless. And it is thus with our talents for doing good; it is 'use or lose.' If you have ability to do something, do that something and you will be able with each succeeding day to do it better. But if you do not do it, you will perhaps attempt to do it sometime, and find it impossible."

Brainstorming

Have chairs in semi-circle around a table at the front of your room. The committee members appointed by the leader take their places. The leader presents the problem: "What abilities has God given us which we can use for the blessing and benefit of others and for the glory of God?"

After the problem is stated, all rules of judgment are suspended, and the committee members present any ideas they can think of. No comments are made about any ideas at this time. The ideas are simply

stated and a secretary writes each of them down.

After the 10 minute brainstorming period is over, everyone present at the meeting evaluates the ideas that have been recorded.

Role Playing

From the evaluation of the ideas that came out of the brainstorming session, select a few to role play. Role playing is a form of dramatization. Ask for volunteers to act the part of a young person or persons using one of their abilities to serve others.

For example, have one young person invite another young person to a Christian Endeavor meeting. Encourage the actors to lose their self-consciousness and identify themselves with the persons they are portraying. After they have acted out the situation, then the whole group discusses it and decides why a particular character did or said something or how the situation could have been handled better.

Life Problems

Jane has an exceptionally beautiful voice. She is already taking voice training. Three other young people in the same church have voices of average quality. They are not taking voice training. Should they provide special music? Or should Jane be the only one? Why?

Bill is what some term a "born talker." He has the ability to talk to anyone—even total strangers. He always seems to know what to say. He's at ease, and he can usually put the person to whom he is talking at ease also. How can Bill use this ability for the glory of God?

Faye has an opportunity to earn some money by baby sitting for a young couple in her neighborhood. She has learned that they will spend the evening at a night club. What should she do?

Discussion Questions

Why does the Christian Endeavor Pledge include: "I will . . . take my part in the meetings and other activities of this society?"

What are some "other activities" in which the members of our society can use their abilities?

How can we get more young people to use their abilities in the work of our Christian Endeavor society and our church?

What is the secret of the power of a young person's effective service, whether his ability be great or little?

The Greatest Thing You Can Do

Someone asked the Rev. Lyman Beecher what he considered the greatest thing a human being could do. Without any hesitation the famous preacher replied: "The greatest thing is, not that one shall be a scientist, important as that is; nor that one shall be a statesman, vastly important as that is; nor even that one shall be a theologian, immeasurably important as that is; but, the greatest thing of all," he said, "is for one human being to bring another to Christ Jesus, the Saviour."

Mary Lou Funk is associate editor of United Brethren Publications, Huntington, Indiana.



The Youthful Christian and Recreation

No. 1 in a Series: "Christian Citizenship Hot Spots"

Zechariah 8:1-6

Senior-Young People (15-24 Years)

OCTOBER

Comments by Rev. Ellis R. Shaw*

QUESTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED

1. Should a Christian be different as far as his recreational activities are concerned?
2. Explain II Corinthians 6:14-18. Do you think this passage has any bearing on the youthful Christian and his recreation?
3. Do you feel that dating is a form of recreation? If so, how should Christians conduct themselves?
4. What about certain questionable amusements? Do you think a Christian has the right to indulge in them?
5. I Corinthians 10:31 is a great Bible principle. Do you think it has any application to a Christian and his recreation? In what way?
6. Read Romans 14:14-23; compare it with I Corinthians 8:9-13. What is the central thing the Apostle Paul is emphasizing here as far as a Christian and his recreation are concerned?
7. Do you think a Christian ought to engage in any kind of Sunday recreation? Make some suggestions.
8. Do you consider television a good recreational medium? If television had been available in the Apostle Paul's day, do you think he would have approved of it?
9. Do you feel that it is proper for a Christian to be present at places where questionable amusements are going on even though he does not engage in them?

Christ. Christians, we must be careful about our influence!

The Pattern of Christ-Likeness

1. *A Christian Is a Mind Through which Christ Thinks.* Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman used to say, "The rule that governs my life is this: anything that dims my vision of Christ or takes away my taste for Bible study or cramps my prayer life or makes Christian work difficult is wrong for me, and as a Christian I must turn away from it."
2. *A Christian Is a Hand Through which Christ Serves.* Whether at work or at recreation, whatever a Christian does is important. If a Christian's hand is engaged in some questionable pastime, he had better be careful. It has been said in regard to the collar of a shirt, "If it's doubtful, then it's dirty!" In regard to amusements, if they are doubtful, they may be dirty!
3. *A Christian Is a Voice Through which Christ Speaks.* The influence of the voice! The power of the tongue and the lips! "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus . . ." (Romans 10:9). Even in moments of recreation we can be good witnesses for our Saviour. He said, "Ye shall be witnesses unto Me" (Acts 1:8).
4. *A Christian Is a Heart Through which Christ Loves.* If the love of Christ controls us, we will desire above everything else to magnify Him. We will be careful to see

that our amusements and our recreation glorify the Lord Jesus.

Frederick the Great once made a coarse joke about the Saviour. The great General Von Zeeland quietly stood amid the rude laughter of the court. "Gentlemen," he said, "you know that I am an old man; soon I shall go into the presence of One greater than any here, the mighty God who saved me from my sin, the Lord Jesus Christ, whom you blaspheme, sirs. I love my Saviour and cannot bear to hear Him spoken against."

With trembling voice the king replied, "General Von Zeeland, I beg your pardon! The company dispersed in silence.

A Christian is a heart through whom Christ lives.

Life Situation

Whenever Christians discuss the subject of recreation invariably dancing comes into view. Should a Christian dance? Should Christian Endeavor society or a church sponsor dances?

After his first year of ministerial preparation, the writer returned home and was invited to a dinner-dance. He did not participate in the dance itself, although he was present at the dinner. Later in the week the local newspaper carried an account in its society column of those who had been present at this event; the writer's name was listed.

Three or four young people whom the writer had gathered together for Bible study and prayer previously read this account of the dinner-dance in the paper. They were disturbed by it, disturbed that the person who had been nurturing them in spiritual things was present at such an event. It was difficult for the writer to be effective with them after that!

The writer now is pastor of a church. He is convinced that as a Christian leader he should not dance, nor should his church and its Christian Endeavor societies sponsor dances. The youth work has not been hurt by this stand, for we have six active Christian Endeavor groups; they are having the time of their lives! Best of all, many of the young people in these societies believe that a Christian should outlive, outthink, outwork, and outplay the non-Christian; as far as they are concerned, one does not have to dance to do it!

Recreation Resources

The following excellent resource book may be ordered from Christian Endeavor headquarters in Columbus, Ohio:

- Abingdon Party Parade, B. Hogan, \$1.95
- Cokesbury Party Book, M. Depew, \$1.95
- Encyclopedia of Games, D. Anderson, \$2.95
- The Fun Encyclopedia, E. O. Harbin, \$3.95
- Games of Many Nations, E. O. Harbin, \$1.95
- Handy—No. 1 or No. 2, Rohrbough, \$2.95 each
- Omnibus of Fun, Helen and Larry Eisenberg, \$7.95

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORK

Suggestions for the Leader

It would be helpful to use folding tables at this meeting, seating four persons to a table. As the young people arrive, they should be assigned to a table, and to remain there during the rest of the evening.

A question written out on a piece of paper is placed on each table, and at the proper time that question is discussed and the conclusions reached jotted down. When the leader asks for it, each table will send a representative to the front and report the findings of those at his table. Incidentally, each table should have a different question on it.

Program Suggestions

Pre-Prayer Service

Song Period

Announcements

Prayer

Scripture, I Corinthians 10:23-33

Leader's Introduction of the Topic:

Tonight we shall think together about the youthful Christian and his recreation. This is a very important subject. We want your best thinking about it. At each table there is a question; discuss it and appoint one of your number to present your conclusions later on in the meeting.

Reports from the Tables

Vocal Solo

Closing Summary by Leader or Guest

Speaker

Benediction

Concluding the Service

The leader or speaker may present some of the following ideas:

A Christian should enjoy every proper and decent kind of amusement. Recreation is as essential to him as it is to anyone else. It is altogether fitting that Christians give some attention to this part of life. Certainly a Christian has no business involving himself in sinful amusements. I Timothy 5:22 declares, "Neither be partakers of other men's sins." Gambling, drunkenness, immorality, anything that destroys, injures, or blackens character is wrong.

Of course there are other areas of amusement and recreation where we cannot be so dogmatic. Where there is reasonable doubt about a pastime being right or wrong, it is always well to check it with I Corinthians 8:9, "But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumblingblock to them that are weak." There may be nothing intrinsically wrong with some forms of recreation, but if some people imagine it is wrong and are offended by it, then the Apostle urges us not to "offend those who are weak in the faith." He declares that it is better to give up the amusement, no matter how cherished, in order to reach and win the "weak one" for

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Watch Your Tongue

No. 1 in a Series: "Putting Christianity into Action"

James 3:2-13



Junior High (12-14 Years)

OCTOBER 4

Comments by Mrs. Richard Cattermole*

Preparing to Lead

There is probably nothing more important in a Christian's life than the testimony he gives via his tongue. The lack of a proper witness in our speech can deny our Christian profession. Therefore a great deal of thought and much earnest prayer should make up the preparation for leading a meeting.

Borrow a good concordance from your pastor or your public library. Look over everything recorded in God's Word regarding "tongue," "lips," "talk," "speaking" or "speech." Let this information serve as a basis for your thinking as you prepare to lead this topic.

Advertising the Meeting

Put red construction paper in the shape of tongues (or if a tongue is too difficult to make realistic, use lips — they will illustrate the lesson just as well). Paste the tongues on larger pieces of white paper and beneath them print the information about the time and place of the meeting. Include also a Scripture verse taken from James 3:2-13. If you use a tongue, verse 2(a) is appropriate; if you use lips, verse 3(a) would be a good one. Distribute these in your Sunday school to all the young people your society age group serves.

Trying Your Program

For the Scripture reading, use a Verse Choir. This need not be very large, just a few good voices that will blend well together. If you have never done anything like this before, you will find it very fascinating. With just a small amount of practice you can decide which parts should be read louder, softer, faster and slower. It might be best to use the entire chapter of James

A good solo to have sung at this service could be, "Lord, Speak to Me That I May Hear."

This topic would fit in well for a confirmation meeting. "Making Your Tongue Christian" could be the theme. After having each member respond in the usual manner of the Roll Call by giving a verse of Scripture, emphasize the verse found in Psalm 19:14, "Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable in Thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer."

Discussing the Topic

The story is told of Zanthus, an ancient Greek philosopher, who ordered his servant Aesop to prepare dinner for his guests and provide the best thing the market could supply.

So Aesop prepared tongue of all varieties — bird tongues, animal tongues—all served

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QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Why is it important for a Christian to watch his tongue?
2. What are some ways we can make our tongues "bless" instead of "curse"?
3. How can our tongues "give us away" if we are not sincere in our Christian witness?

with different kinds of sauce. "Why so much tongue?" inquired Zanthus. Aesop replied, "Is there anything better than the instrument of praise and worship?"

The next day Zanthus ordered his servant to prepare the worst thing on the market, and again the philosopher and his guests had a meal of tongue. "For," said Aesop, "surely the tongue is the worst thing in the world, the instrument of strife, the organ of lies and blasphemy."

Aesop was very wise. Consider the tongues of the world's great men down through the ages. First think of the men whose lives are recorded in the Bible. Think of the wise and wonderful things they have uttered through the guidance of God's Holy Spirit. Then review those men who have contributed great things to the Christian Church, such as Martin Luther, John Knox, John Wesley. Recall some of the things they have said. Next, remember great statesmen like Benjamin Franklin, Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Jefferson and the fine things they have said. On the other hand, turn to the tongues of the slanderer, the gossip, the unscrupulous politician, the communist, and see what great harm can be done by their evil speaking, their insincere talking.

"Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing . . ." we read in our text chapter (James 3:10a). Our tongues as Christians have a great responsibility and at the same time are subject to great danger because of this great potential contrast.

Restraining Our Tongue

First, let's talk about what the Bible says we should not do with our tongues, because James reminds us of the restraint a Christian should place on his tongue, "If any man among you seemeth to be religious and bridleth not his tongue . . . this man's religion is vain" (James 1:26). From what, then, should our tongues be restrained, or held back?

1. *Evil speaking*—"Speak not evil one of another" (James 4:11a). This is easier to do than we realize. The devil is waiting to put words in our mouths to advance his cause. We need always be on guard.

2. *Backbiting*—"Who shall abide in Thy tabernacle?" "He that backbiteth not with his tongue" (Psalm 15:3). The natural thing is to glibly retort when something unkind is said about us. This is not God's way. He will "repay." We are to remain sweet and forgiving.

3. *Vain Talk*—"For there are many unruly and vain talkers" (Titus 1:10) and "A fool's voice is known by the multitude of words" (Ecclesiastes 5:3). Did you ever feel ashamed after you had talked a good

deal, especially when you have talked about yourself most of the time? A Christian's words should be weighed carefully and what is spoken should be worthwhile and not just "vain talk."

4. *Talebearing*—"Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people" (Leviticus 19:16) and "He that repeateth a matter separateth friends" (Proverbs 17:9). A person who carries tales is a contemptible person. It is unthinkable that a Christian should be ever guilty of such a thing. It is a pretty good rule not to say anything about someone if it cannot be something good. Gossip is a horrible thing, and there is no room for it in the life of a child of God.

5. *Slander*—"Whoso slandereth his neighbor, him will I cut off" (Psalm 101:5). The devoted mother of a great preacher once said, "Always remember when you talk about someone, that someone is another for whom Christ died." How could a Christian deliberately say anything which would harm a fellow man, knowing we have all sinned, and only through God's grace can we be worth anything, even the greatest of us.

On the Positive Side

The Bible says much about what we should do with our tongues and the kind of talk which should come from our lips. This talk must be:

1. *Pleasant*—"Pleasant words are as a honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones" (Proverbs 16:24). This pleasant talk should be second nature to Christians. If it is not to us, then we must examine our hearts and lives.

2. *Appropriate*—"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pitchers (RV-baskets) of silver" (Proverbs 25:11). This is a description of a beautiful ornament. Words can be just as beautiful and precious if we make them so.

3. *Comforting*—"The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary" (Isaiah 50:4). A person living close to the Lord can help others so much in this way when their needs are pressing and they lack encouragement.

4. *Kind*—"A soft answer turneth away wrath" (Proverbs 15:1). How familiar this Scripture is to us! If we can manage to keep our tempers and not say unkind things, the Lord is really working in our lives.

5. *Concerning spiritual things*—"And thou shalt teach them (God's truths) unto thy children and shall talk of them when thou sittest . . . walkest . . . liest down . . . risest up . . ." (Deuteronomy 6:7). There is never a time when we are exempt from giving our Christian testimony when the occasion presents itself. How easy it is to speak of everything except of the Lord! Let us determine, in the future, to use this power God has given us to praise Him and tell of His salvation.



The Youthful Christian and Business

No. 2 in a Series: "Christian Citizenship Hot Spots"

Job 1:6-10,22

Senior-Young People (15-24 Years)

OCTOBER

Comments by Dr. Samuel S. Haas*

Purpose

To discover what success in business really means and how the Christian can best achieve it.

Introduction

All of us have a desire to make a success of life in whatever field of endeavor is chosen. That is natural and a worthy ambition. But it raises two important questions: "What is success?" and "How do I achieve success?" Let us seek to answer them in terms of the Christian faith.

What Is Success?

Is it a large salary? Is it a high position of responsibility in a business concern? Is it recognition as an expert or an authority in some field of endeavor or subject? In a sense, the affirmative answer to each of these questions could and, in the eyes of some, does serve as the definition of success.

On the other hand, does a small salary indicate a failure? Suppose a man works for a company with limited resources so that it can pay only modest salaries? Does a position of ordinary significance indicate a less than successful individual? Suppose a man prefers a small company because of its respect for the individual as an individual rather than a large corporation where he is just a number? Does non-recognition as an authority indicate that a man is less wise or knowing than those enjoying such a reputation? Is it not possible that a man does not have the opportunity to demonstrate his skill?

As a Christian we should ask this question: "What is Jesus' definition of success? Upon whom would He pronounce the verdict, 'You are a successful man?'"

In the Scripture lesson we met Job. Certainly, by the world's standards, he was a most successful man. But what is it that God uses to describe him? God says to Satan: "Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil?" In other words, God deemed Job a success because of what he was.

With this definition of success Jesus would agree. More important than material things as a measure of success is spiritual excellence. More indicative of the successful man than what one has is what one is. See Matthew 6:19-21,33; Luke 12:21,33. Was Jesus rich? See Matthew 8:20; Luke 9:58. Did Jesus occupy a position of authority or high responsibility? See Matthew 13:55; Mark 6:3. Was He honored and praised? See Matthew 26:59,75; 27:29-38. Yet, what was God's verdict? Matthew 3:17; 17:5; Mark 1:11.

How Do I Achieve Success?

Though what is said in answer to this

QUESTIONS TO STIMULATE DISCUSSION

1. It is often said that an honest person can never be a success in business. Therefore, if one wants to get ahead he must engage in "sharp practices." If this is true, are you willing to pay the price? For a Christian is success on such terms worth it?
2. In business some people think that as long as they are not caught it is all right to do what is not on the up and up. Is this true?
3. Have you ever heard it said by one who has done something dishonest in business: "Oh, what's the difference? The company can afford it." Does such reasoning justify or excuse dishonesty in the business world?
4. Is it all right to employ tricks and half-truths in advertising if it produces results?
5. On the basis of the experiences of the members of your group, draw up what you would consider to be a Christian business code.

question is particularly aimed at business life, for the Christian there is no such artificial distinction between the hours spent in the business world and those spent outside it. A Christian is a Christian at all times and in all places, finding every occasion an opportunity to bear witness for his Saviour.

In the business world where concrete results and proficiency in one's job are the basic requirements, moral and spiritual excellence is no substitute. You may be the most upright person in the world, but if you have no talent or ability in the sphere of your occupation, then all the goodness of your heart and the best intentions in your mind will be of no avail. Success, in part, therefore, requires ability. Having the ability, you must use it. You must develop it. You must perfect it. This will require that you employ it fully in the responsibilities that are yours. This will necessitate further study in your field of interest and endeavor either through reading or night school. This will require thought and good judgment. In this connection it would be well to read Jesus' parable of the talents in Matthew 25:14-30; Luke 19:12-26.

What else is necessary for success in the business world as success is understood from the Christian point of view? These are basically the Christian virtues. Such a list would include honesty. Honesty implies much more than true words and trustworthiness in money matters. It also concerns time, beginning and ending the workday at the hours specified, using the interval in between for the tasks of one's job rather than personal matters, absenting oneself only for legitimate reasons.

It would include diligence. Diligence is compounded of application to one's responsibilities and carefulness in the performance of one's duties. Slacking off is a form of stealing.

It would include considerateness. Every business is a cooperative venture whose success depends upon everyone doing his or her job properly and fully. When one

cuts corners or shirks responsibility one must take up the burden and that is be selfish.

It would include interest in the affairs and progress of the company. To know the value of what one is doing is better appreciated will add incentive to one's job and enable one to do it better.

Fundamentally, success is compounded of ability, application, development of talents, and devotion to Christian principles and virtues. The tangible reward may not come as quickly as one may desire; the recognition may not be given as readily as one thinks he deserves, the business world being what it is—materialistic, competitive, realistic—but in so being; doing one is being true to himself and Lord. In the end, that is the most satisfactory achievement.

Illustration

In the early days of our country Philadelphia was the strong center of Quakerism. Of all the groups in that thriving metropolis the Quakers emerged as the most successful in business affairs. In seeking for the explanation of this fact it was discovered the secret of their success was their fundamental honesty. Most of the other merchants ran their businesses on what was known as the "two-price" system. They would ask a certain price for an article which was higher than they expected to receive. The customer would offer a lower price. Eventually the article was bought for a price somewhere in between.

The Quakers, on the other hand, had a "one price" system. They marked their products with a price that included a reasonable profit and one either bought at that price or not at all. In time, people came to see that they were receiving value for value.

Advertising the Meeting

Cut out of a magazine a picture or pictures in color showing an office scene with people at work, or some other work scene. Print each picture on a poster size piece of cardboard. Then, underneath print the caption: "Are you practicing your faith here? Beneath this print: 'Come to our Christian Endeavor meeting and find out as well as share your experiences with us.'" Then be sure to put on the poster the following information: Date, Time, and Place.

Program Outline

Pre-Prayer Period (15 minutes before meeting is to start)
 Call to Worship
 Hymn: O God, Our Help in Ages
 Invocation and Lord's Prayer
 Scripture: Job 1:6-10,22
 Hymn: Jesus Calls Us
 Sentence Prayers
 Announcements and Offering
 Presentation of the Topic
 Discussion of the Topic
 Hymn: Give of Your Best to the Master
 Prayer of Consecration
 Benediction

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Respect the Things of Others

No. 2 in a Series: "Putting Christianity into Action"

Exodus 20:12-18



Christian High (12-14 Years)

OCTOBER 11

Comments by Kate Vanderberg*

Aims

To recognize the fact that respecting things of others is a God-given man-
(Exodus 20)

To be willing to evaluate "things" in light of the value attached to them by
s.

To be willing to apply the Golden Rule in all the matters pertaining to the things of others, even when it is difficult to do so. (See Matthew 7:12 for the Golden Rule.)

Suggested Program Outline

Prayer Service

Sing: *Sweet Hour of Prayer; More Like the Master; I Would Be Like Jesus*

Announcements

Scripture: Exodus 20:12-18

Singing and Hymn: *Living for Jesus*

Teacher's Talk

Discussion Topics and Questions

Singing Hymn: *Have Thine Own Way, Lord*

Conclusion

Introduction

The topic for today is a very practical one. The title suggests that it is one that we have to deal with in everyday life.

We may not all respond in the same way toward all the "things" included in this respect because of differences in attitudes regarding these things. Nevertheless, we have rules and regulations which are generally accepted as correct for conduct in general regarding the things of others. However, for the Christian young person there is a higher rule which governs his conduct including his regard for the things of others. The title of the topic is in the form of a command, with the subject of the sentence understood; ask your English teacher if you are in doubt about this.

The Scripture for this topic begins with the fifth commandment, which is the first commandment of the second table of the law. As you know, the first four commandments deal with our relationship to God, and the other six deal with our relationship to our fellow men.

In Matthew 22:37-40 Jesus sums up the Ten Commandments in answer to a lawyer's question as to which is the greatest commandment. Jesus speaks of the love of God embracing one's soul, heart, and mind, which is the first and greatest commandment; Jesus says the second is like unto it, which is to love our neighbors as ourselves. Certainly this involves the "things" which belong to our neighbors.

In Exodus 20:12-18 God points out specific points regarding the things included in our topic today.

Respect to Parents. Our Scripture passage begins with the commandment to honor fathers and mothers. "Honor" is a word

POINTS TO REMEMBER

1. We must respect the God-given demands our parents make on us.
2. We must respect the rights the other person has to his life and possessions.
3. We must hold as sacred the human ties of others. (See Mark 10:9)
4. We are not to take that which does not belong to us.
5. We are to tell only the truth, not falsehood.
6. We are not to be jealous of the things our neighbor has.
7. If our lives are dedicated to Christ and the Church, all our attitudes toward others will also be under Jesus' control.

that goes a bit deeper than respect. It also means to revere them and to think highly of them. This is not hard to do for the Christian son or daughter sees God's love through the avenue of his parents' love to him.

Respect for Life. God also demands from us the respect of others' lives. Life is a precious possession and we must not endanger the lives of others through any form of carelessness on our part.

Respect in Social Relationships. There are also intangible things which we must respect. In our social relationships God expects us to observe the fact that human relationships are sacred and binding and are not to be treated as things that can be ignored and violated. Jesus gives us the formula for Christian conduct in the form of the Golden Rule in Matthew 7:12 where He says, "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets."

Suggestions for Topic Discussion

(It might be well to hand out slips of paper beforehand with "Things to Be Respected" written on them. Have the members discuss the various things with the scriptural formula for respecting them.)

1. **Parents.** The Bible says "Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right." See Ephesians 6:1.

2. **Property of others.** In respecting the things that belong to others it means "hands off" to the rest of us unless permission is granted by the owner. See I Kings 21 which is the account of Ahab taking Naboth's vineyard, and the Lord's judgment upon Ahab because of it.

3. **Character of others.** Others' character must be held in esteem by us. We should not believe every rumor, and we must be slow to criticize others. We are to temper all acts pertaining to others with kindness and tenderness because we have received the same blessing in a far greater measure from Christ our Lord. See Psalm 15:2,3; Ephesians 4:31,32.

4. **Opinions of others.** If others differ from us we should remember that they have the privilege to think as they do just as we have the same right. This does not mean

false opinions regarding the Word of God but differences young people might have on a variety of subjects. No one person would know all the right answers on every subject, would he? Therefore, have a wholesome respect for the opinions of others even though they differ from you. See Philippians 2:3; Romans 12:16.

5. **Friendships.** Pray to know how to be a real friend without imposing upon him because he is a friend. Do not expect special favors just for friendship's sake, but be ready to do favors, because of your esteem for your friend. For an example see the account of the friendship of David and Jonathan in I Samuel 18:1; I Samuel 20.

6. **Respect for joys and sorrows of others.** Young people might find it difficult sometimes to appreciate these two extremes in feelings because of inexperience; Paul, in his letter to the Romans, tells you what to do. He says to "Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep." See Romans 12:15.

Discussion Questions

1. What does this lesson mean by respecting things?

(Answer. It means all the visible and invisible things pertaining to others.)

2. What standard do we use to judge what the "things" of others are?

(Answer. God states very clearly in His Law—Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5—what is right and what is wrong regarding our relationship toward others' things.)

3. Are these demands to respect the things of others always reasonable?

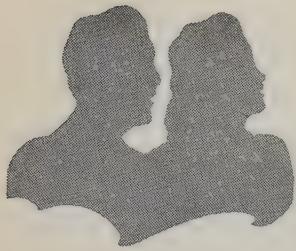
(Answer. There are certain rights which God has given each person just because he is a human being. Just as you have a right to certain "things," others do, too. The Bible is our final authority about these things. We stand firmly upon its precepts. See the Golden Rule as Jesus gave it in Matthew 7:12.)

4. Why does this thought of respecting the things of others have special meaning to Christian Endeavor members?

(Answer. The Christian Endeavor motto, "For Christ and the Church," implies the authority of Jesus Christ in the lives of the members of the Christian Endeavor society. Jesus says one should love one's neighbor as one loves himself; this takes in the total attitudes one has toward the "things" of others.)

Hymns listed in program outlines in THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD have been selected from CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SONGS. This book, with an attractive red and white paper cover, contains 113 songs and hymns for youth meetings. Available from International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio. Price: 50c each, \$5 per dozen, \$40 per hundred.

Kate Vanderberg teaches Bible and English at Christian High School in Cicero, Illinois.



The Youthful Christian and Politics

No. 3 in a Series: "Christian Citizenship Hot Spots"

Romans 13:1-7

Senior-Young People (15-24 Years)

OCTOBER

Comments by Dr. Lawrence M. Bixler*

Aim of the Topic

The aim of the topic is to point out the youthful Christian's attitudes and responsibilities toward the state, province, or nation in which he lives. It is also to show how the Christian can be a leavening influence in the social order in which he lives.

Preparation for the Meeting

Make this a patriotic meeting. National flags could be used to decorate the room. A voting booth might add a little variety and attract attention. Small gummed national flags could be attached to invitations on postal cards.

A panel discussion could be arranged in advance of the meeting which would present various viewpoints as to the opportunities and responsibilities of Christians toward political issues and practices.

If there are some ingenious members of the society, a skit could be worked out showing various attitudes which youthful Christians could take and an evaluation of these attitudes.

For the Leader

Our topic for this week is the third in a series of Christian citizenship hot spots. There is an attempt to point out some of the problems involved in living the Christian life.

The Christian has a double allegiance. His primary allegiance is to Christ as his Lord. But he also is to "be subject to the governing authorities . . . Would you have no fear of him who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval" (Romans 13:1,3).

The Christian, furthermore, is to have a leavening influence in the world in which we live. The Christian is a purifying influence—"the salt of the earth." But how can we as Christians let our influence be felt?

Have the group make a list of these things. Included will be the following:

- (1) Voting intelligently in the country's elections.
- (2) Taking part in citizenship contests promoted by Christian Endeavor.
- (3) Looking to politics as a possible career.
- (4) The formulation of a Christian politician's ethical code.

The Christian Citizen Can Vote

In the "free world" one of the privileges of a citizen is voting. Before an intelligent decision can be made on any question one must have adequate information. This means that it is necessary to have information on both sides of an issue.

With modern mass communication there seems to be an abundance of propaganda, but too often a scarcity of information. Propaganda is information which has the purpose of winning the listener over to one side of a question. But how can one

SUGGESTED PROGRAM OUTLINE

Pre-Prayer Service
Hymn: *America the Beautiful*
Pledge to the Flag
Scripture Reading: Romans 13:1-7
Prayer Hymn: *I Surrender All*
Directed Prayer
Announcements and Offering
Special Music
Discussion of the Topic
Closing Hymn: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*
Benediction

receive information that is not so slanted? Usually those who speak up on such questions hold a position which they believe to be correct.

As one listens to those on both sides of a question perhaps he can gather information which will help him to make an intelligent decision. Reading newspapers and magazines, listening to panel discussions on television or at public meetings, and talking with associates are media through which we may gain information. Have the group discuss the values of each of these means and also suggest other ways of gaining accurate information.

Information alone is not enough in decision making. One must have some sort of philosophy of life which gives meaning to the information. Herein the Christian views things differently than the non-Christian. It is on a different basis than material prosperity and self-centered ends that the Christian must make his judgments.

The Christian must see the implications of his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ in the situation which he faces. The Christian must ask, "What basic Christian principles are involved in this issue, if any?" In some cases there will be Christian principles but in other cases there will not.

Have the group discuss how a Christian should be guided in voting in matters which do not directly involve Christian principles. Should a Christian vote on every issue on the ballot; e.g., an issue on which he seems to have inadequate information? What are the values and dangers of voting on all issues?

Responsibilities to Political Leaders and the Law

The Christian not only can vote, but there are other ways in which his leavening influence may be felt in the community.

Private citizens do have a voice other than the ballot box in the making of laws. Many laws are enacted by legislative bodies of the nation, state, province, etc. The decisions of the legislators on an issue are often influenced by the letters sent in by private citizens. Petitions signed by citizens are sometimes effective in a local community. Discuss why people do not write their legislators on issues; e.g., the lack of knowledge of the bills before a legislature.

A state legislature considers literally thousands of bills in a single session. When

should we write our legislators? How do people know who are their representatives? How many feel that they do not know how to write a letter to their representative?

The Christian citizen should not neglect his influence in the making of laws. He should use his influence to effect change for law. Laws can only be effective for human good as there is respect for law. In our Scripture lesson, Paul makes it clear that a Christian must respect civil authorities. This means the Christian is to be honest in regard to paying taxes, traffic laws, and all laws which are designed to protect the property and lives of other persons.

Why is there a general tendency to regard traffic laws? All of us probably have some laws every time we drive to work. Is there any difference between this and a general disregard for these laws? How can this be improved upon?

Since Christian Endeavor is interested in the building of Christian citizens, what some things which your society can do to help in this?

The Christian as a Politician

What training is necessary to be an effective Christian politician? One who enters this field should certainly know something about the law and the history of his country. But should he not also have more than a childish understanding of the Christian faith? Should he not have a background which includes training on a college or seminary level in theology?

Another vital question is, "How can we gain experience necessary for election to the more significant political positions? Many have been lawyers in private practice. Others have held appointive salaries in some department of modern government. Are you familiar with jobs which are available in line with your interests and abilities? It might be well if you could discuss these opportunities with someone familiar with them.

A third problem is that of an ethical code in politics. "Can a Christian be a politician?" This is a question many people ask. Is a politician compelled to use questionable methods or can he be as ethical as any other person in our society? What are some things which the politician must guard against? What are some things he must be committed to? How can some correspondence or conversation with Christian men in politics would answer these questions.

Questions for Discussion

Some have affirmed that politics is so corrupt that for a Christian to participate is futile. What do you think about this? Some feel that a legislator in a democracy is to represent his people. What should a Christian do with respect to a legislator which seems to be the will of a majority of the people, at least as far as he can tell, and yet the measure is against Christian convictions? What are his obligations to his convictions? What are the dangers of either alternative?

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"Thou Hast Much Goods"

No. 3 in a Series: "Putting Christianity into Action"

Luke 12:15-21



or High (12-14 Years)

OCTOBER 18

ments by Dr. Raymond M. Veh*

a Poster

a cardboard place at one side a egg showing money or luxury. On the side clip and paste an illustration of ad of Christ. In the center draw a balances. At the bottom print, "How should we strive for material things? to Christian Endeavor tonight -----"

Worship Service Speaks

ans: *Trust and Obey; O Jesus, I Have ed; Now I Belong to Jesus.*

Reading: God, creator and owner of all things: Genesis 1:1; Psalm 24:1; ans 1:16; Deuteronomy 8:18. Spirit important than material: Ecclesiastes Matthew 4:4; 6:19; 6:33.

owing Topic Presentation: Debate the n, "Resolved, that clothes are of more ance in judging a man than per-

uss the subject, "What would happen yone were to ignore the need for ing food and clothing?"

Object Lesson: Secure a set of es. A small bank on one side with a on the other will make a good object for the topic. As material possessions scussed add coins to the bank until balances the Bible.

ake Our "Gods" for Granted

has bestowed upon us great tem- blessings. As individuals and as a we have profound reasons to rejoice. ce our prosperity in the bursting the heaping bank vaults, the roar stories, the rumble of the trains and iftily coursing ships, the beasts of the cattle upon the hills, the untold of the mines, the wide-spreading , the fertile plains, and the heavy- orchards. These are all the gift of and it is well for us to remember all these bounties belong to Him. asy is it for men to think that their hands have gotten them this wealth. ds belong to God, and we are only ds of the things we possess.

Dangers We Face

ause things dominate our everyday ies we are in danger of embracing rism.

immense busy-ness, our pre-occupa- with trivial things, our worship of ss," our panicky effort to save our n, our comforts, our gadgets, our way nking and doing whether there is a or no God—are these not evidences of eularism of our times? Many people dern life, even though they may say hey believe in God, organize their as though God does not exist. They arrived at a state where God, His

OUR AIMS

1. To sense that God is the giver of all good gifts.
2. To see how emphasis on things can keep us from nurturing the spiritual values of life.
3. To resolve to put our prime concern on eternal goals and not earthly riches.

SEEK FURTHER QUESTIONS

1. Why is it wrong to covet?
2. Are there national perils of materialism?
3. Has the church overemphasized the materialistic side?
4. What temptations of materialism come to Endeavorers?
5. How can we overcome materialism?
6. Are some Christians tied down with obligations to make more money and forgetting their obligations to the church? How does this show up?

kingdom, and His righteousness are merely background matters. Theirs is a kind of practical atheism.

We Christians must pointedly ask: How can the secular spirit be overcome? Christ points the direction we must follow when He says: "Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness." God must be everlastingly in first place. Secondly, secularism can be attacked by building strong churches where the Christ-spirit is uppermost. Thirdly, secularism can be counteracted by individual Christians showing the power of Christianity in their own daily living.

Our Scripture

Jesus teaches in today's Bible passage that material things cause concern and trouble. The first instance mentioned in the Scripture refers to a man who was not satisfied because his brother had obtained more of his father's money than he had. Inheritances often break up friendly relationships between members of the same parental home. The reason for this is touched upon by the Master—it is covetousness on the part of some of the family. Someone has been striving to secure more of this world's wealth than belongs to him. It reaches out into other relationships also. Desiring the wealth that someone else possesses has often broken friendships. When that is done there has been too much striving for material things.

The second thing that Jesus teaches in the lesson is that riches do not measure men. See verse 15. Men are often esteemed because of the things that they own. Often in the church, the people who make the greatest financial contributions are the people who dictate the policies of the church. Wealth does not grant authority, nor is it the substance of which life is made.

Then Jesus teaches a similar lesson with a parable. Prosperity often leads to independence of even the Creator. Here was

a man who thought that all he needed to produce happiness was a barn full of grain. He based his happiness upon material possessions. He did not realize that man is spirit and must deal with God. Satisfaction from possessing certain things is always short-lived. What fools we mortals be! This man could not live when he strangled his soul with grain.

Finally, Jesus guarantees satisfaction if the proper balance of the things we seek is maintained. If spiritual things are deemed to be of more value than these material things, we will not need to fear that the material necessities will be lacking. See verse 31, and preceding ones. After we are certain that we are more concerned about the Kingdom of God than anything else, we may strive for material things as much as we can, so long as we strive honestly.

Life's Goal Is Spiritual

The goal of life is a Perfect Man, mentally, morally and spiritually. These are the things that remain, that do not disintegrate. Therefore the goal of life should ever be kept in mind and before our eyes as we strive for material things.

All material things must contribute to this goal. Every factory that darkens the sky with its black smoke, every railroad that ties together the people of different communities, every place of business that opens its doors to the public, every place that seems to have a relationship to material things only, must contribute to the spiritual goal. That goal includes those finer attitudes of kindness, sympathy, courtesy, thoughtfulness, friendship and love. When these are placed ahead of wealth and social position, then these material things are generally added unto us.

But in this ideal there is God. The goal is not perfect unless God holds the supreme place. Man must have this relationship with his Maker, otherwise he is seeking too much for material things.

Pertinent Illustrations

Tolstoi tells in one of his books that Fortune met a young man, and said, "I will give you as much land as you can cover in a day, one mile wide. But you must retrace your steps and be at your starting place at nightfall." Early in the morning the young man was ready for his journey. At the crack of the pistol he was off on a dead chase. On he ran. He looked up and the sun had passed its meridian. He must retrace his steps and cross the wire by six o'clock or all would be lost. He hastened; he tore loose his coat and sandals. He crossed the line just before the pistol was discharged. He cried, "I have won," and fell dead. This is a peril of materialism.

Midas wanted the power to turn every thing to gold at his touch. The fairy granted his request. His food, his drink, his little daughter turned to gold at his touch. Then the gold mocked him with its uselessness.



"Here I Stand"

Joshua 24:14-18
(Reformation Sunday)

Senior-Young People (15-24 Years)

OCTOBER

Comments by Dr. Bastian Kruithof*

Promoting the Meeting

Clip pictures of Martin Luther, John Calvin, and John Knox from periodicals or books and make a poster. Print the names and dates of these men, and the heading: MEN OF THE REFORMATION.

Suggested reading: *Here I Stand*, by Roland H. Bainton; *John Calvin: the Man and His Ethics*, by Georgia Harkness; the section on the Reformation in any good history of the Christian Church.

Purpose

To come to a clear understanding of the origins and growth of Protestantism. The Reformation was a movement back to the Word of God, back to the fundamental faith of the early Christian Church. Whatever protest there was in it was against the evils that had crept into the Church. It was, however, more of a positive movement than a negative one.

For the Leader

The leader should read carefully the Scripture references for each day from October 19 through October 25 (see page 26). Joshua is a splendid example of a man of faith, standing fast and showing undaunted courage.

The leader should also know some of the important facts of Luther's life. The suggested readings will be very helpful. If several members will do some of this reading, the meeting will be a greater success.

What Happened to Luther

Martin Luther was an Augustinian monk in Germany. He took his calling in the monastery very seriously and was very much concerned about the peace of his soul. He tried to carry out the rules of his order carefully, performed his acts of penance, even took a trip to Rome. There in the so-called "Holy" City he even climbed the sacred stairs, muttering his prayers as he went. But the restlessness within him did not subside. When he came back to Germany, he was more miserable than before.

His superior had urged him to study the Scriptures. He did that with a sense of urgency. That brought its reward. A reading of Galatians and Romans opened his eyes and unlocked his heart. The words that really penetrated he found in Galatians 3:11 and Romans 1:17: "The just shall live by faith." They dropped as a bombshell into his life.

Now Luther saw his past mistakes. According to the rules of his order and the teachings of the church he had been seeking peace through his own works: penance, fastings, the punishing of the body for the good of the soul, the muttering of formal prayers. None of these had helped. There was not salvation in them. In fact, he saw that the evils which had crept into the church for centuries had blotted out the true revelation of the Bible itself. Among

SUGGESTED PROGRAM OUTLINE

Pre-Prayer Service
Call to Worship
Hymn: **Stand Up for Jesus**
Scripture: Joshua 24:14-18; Galatians 3:1-11
Hymn: **The Church's One Foundation**
Prayer
Announcements and Offering
Topic
Discussion
Christian Endeavor Pledge
Hymn: **All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name**
Benediction

these evils were the worship of the saints, the adoration of relics, the sale of indulgences to shorten the time of the soul's stay in purgatory, the iniquities of the papacy, and the sins among the priesthood.

Now that Luther understood the simple way of salvation, he revolted against these evils. It was on October 31, 1517, that he nailed his famous ninety-five theses on the door of the church at Wittenberg.

Events moved swiftly after this. Luther burned the papal bull which excommunicated him. He was ordered to stand trial at the Diet of Worms. There he uttered those ringing words: "Here I stand, I can do no other; may God help me. Amen."

The Church of Rome was out to condemn Luther for his revolt. That condemnation would have cost Luther his life. However, Frederick, the Elector of Saxony, ordered his troops to spirit the Reformer away. They took him to the Wartburg Castle where he was a free "captive" beyond the reach of Rome. There Luther studied and wrote and translated the Bible into the German language.

What the Reformation Really Stood For

Luther had kindled a fire that would sweep over Europe and the British Isles and that would in time affect the whole world.

What the Reformation really stood for can be summed up under four headings.

1. Justification by faith.

That great truth which struck Luther forcibly is found in Romans 1:17 and Galatians 3:11. The meaning is expressed in the lines of a familiar hymn:

"Not what my hands have done
Can save my guilty soul."

We are saved by God's grace through our faith in Him. If we could save ourselves through our good works, the Cross of Calvary would be unnecessary. Our "goodness" is not good enough. God took infinite pains to redeem us through the death and resurrection of His Son, our Lord and Saviour. If we believe in Him, God declares us just.

This does not mean that we should not do good works. We certainly should. But they must be the fruit of faith, not the root.

2. Supreme authority of Scripture.

It is the Word of God that reveals to us

the great acts of God and the salvation. No church may diminish its authority by its dogmas and traditions. The Reformation says the church must place itself on a par with the Word of God before the Scriptures.

3. Right of private judgment.

The Word of God is for the people, not only for the clergy. As a result of the Reformation the Bible has been translated as a whole or in part into more than a hundred languages and dialects. Every person has the right to read and study the Bible.

This, of course, entails a risk. Every interpretation of Scripture has revealed many denominations and sectarianisms. Rome has a point there. But this is better than the dominating authority of one church.

4. The priesthood of all believers.

Each believer stands before God as an individual. He needs no priestly mediation. The only mediator he needs is Jesus Christ. Our prayers ascend directly to God. We need no saints as intermediaries. We commune with us through His Word through Jesus Christ who is the Word made flesh; and His Spirit works in us, giving us the second birth, and illuminating and guiding us.

The Personal Problem

How do I become a Christian?

When the Philippian jailer asked Paul and Silas what he had to do to be saved, the answer was: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ." He did, and he and his household were baptized.

He was not told to go on a fast, to lash his body, or to recite a hundred prayers. All he had to do was believe in the grace of God would take care of him. That is what Luther learned also.

There is a second question which every person asks: "What must I do to be saved? I am saved?"

The answer is that each of us, through greater spiritual maturity, shall be able to serve God and men better wherever we are.

That means a more serious study of Scripture, that open Book which speaks to us all. That means living a life in the light of that Word. That means also a greater faithfulness in our work, an intense loyalty to the Church of Jesus Christ which is His Body.

It means courageous living, taking a stand against evil in any form, for the good as God reveals it.

That is the way we relate the truth of the Reformation to our personal lives.

Has your society entered Christian Citizenship Contest? For the 1960 Citizenship Contest? For the awards are offered to societies forming a citizenship project and reporting to the Citizenship Director, International Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, Columbus 16, Ohio, for complete details. It will also be given to young people's past.

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"What Is That in Thine Hand?"

No. 4 in a Series: "Putting Christianity into Action"

Exodus 4:1-5



or High (12-14 Years)

OCTOBER 25

Comments by Mary Lou Funk

ity

Make a poster picturing a few possessions of junior high young people. Include time, and topic of meeting. Printed announcements might be a different and effective way to publicize your group. Cut construction paper in the shape of a hand. Print on it: "What is in thine hand?" Come to Christian endeavor and find out." Include time and place on this announcement.

October 18 announce that the next program will include a Bible quiz on the readings. (See page 26.) Be certain to assign the dramatization one week in advance. This part of the program should be rehearsed. Remind those who participate to be sure to have their own. Assign one person to take care of the light. Have plenty of paper and pencils available for use in the meeting.

Program Outline

Prayer Service

Song: *Take My Life and Let It Be*
Give of Your Best to the Master
Song: I Corinthians 1:27-29

Music: *What Shall I Give Thee,*
Peter?

Announcements and Offering

Quiz

Possessions Can I Use?

What Is That in Thine Hand?"

Can I Use My Possessions to Help Others?

Moments of Dedication (under direction of Counselor)

Song: *Just As I Am, Thine Own to Be*
of Consecration

Quiz

What Bible character do you picture as having "five smooth stones"? How did he use them and the stones? Jesus drew one of Jesus' twelve disciples, is numbered for having made two important journeys on a mountainside one day. Who were they? And what was done with them?

Whom did God address the question, "What is that in thine hand?" What was in the person's hand? What had he been doing with it for? For what purpose did God want him to use it?

What is a plummet?

Whom did God use to preserve the life of the prophet Elijah during a famine? What did he have to eat?

What part of an animal did Samson use to defeat an enemy? How was he able to do it?

What is indicated by the effective use of significant possessions?

Why has God chosen to use what seem to be insignificant objects and persons to do significant things?

Possessions Can I Use?

Provide each person with paper and a

AIMS

1. To consider some of the insignificant objects and persons God uses to accomplish His purposes.
2. To take inventory of what we have that God has given us and can use for His glory.
3. To illustrate how God can use the possessions of junior high young people.
4. To encourage each person to dedicate himself and all of his possessions to God.

pencil. Give them 3-5 minutes to list their possessions which they can use to help others. This may also include family possessions which Junior Highs can use. Have them read their lists aloud.

"What Is That in Thine Hand?"

(Spotlight falls on each young person as he enters and is on stage.)

Voice off stage: What is that in your hand?

1st young person: A good lawn rake! (starts hurrying off; stops when voice calls).

Voice: Say, what's the rush? Can you wait a minute? I want to ask you another question.

1st young person: Okay, but please hurry, 'cause I've got to get over to the church and help our Christian Endeavor members rake the lawn.

Voice: I was going to ask you what you are going to do with the rake. But you've answered that, so hurry along now. (Pause, until second person gets to center of stage.) What is that in your hand?

2nd young person: What—this? Oh, it's just the snow shovel I brought up out of our basement this afternoon. According to the news broadcasts we're to have a heavy snowfall tonight. I'll be getting up at 6:30 tomorrow morning so I can shovel Mrs. Brown's walk and ours before I go to school.

Voice: Why are you going to clear Mrs. Brown's?

2nd young person: She's 70 years old. It would be too hard for her to do it herself. She lives alone, so no one else is there to do it. She can't afford to hire anyone—so I plan to do it for free.

Voice: What is that in your hand?

3rd young person: This? Why it's only a Sunday school paper.

Voice: Yes, it's only a Sunday school paper. But it can be the means of teaching someone the way to become a Christian. That has happened, you know. Can you think of a friend you want to lead to Christ? This can be one means to help you. (Pause, until fourth young person gets to center of stage.) What is that in your hand?

4th young person: I'm a shutter bug—at least that's what some of my friends call me. This is my new piece of equipment.

Voice: You remind me of a photographer of a Christian magazine. When he was a young person like you, photography was his hobby. For many years now he has used his camera for Christ's work. (Pause, until fifth young person gets to center of stage.) What is that in your hand?

5th young person: An artist's pencil. I don't snap pictures, I draw them.

Voice: Say, you did the poster for tonight's meeting, didn't you?

5th young person: Yes, I did. Seems like every week I have one to do for Christian Endeavor, Sunday school or some such group. I'm glad—because I really like to do them.

Voice: This is one of the ways God is using you. In addition to posters you might be able to do some illustrating, etc., for some Christian publications. I'm sure your pastor would let you start by illustrating the church bulletin and news letter. Maybe someday God will call you to be a staff artist for some publisher of Christian literature. (Pause, until sixth young person gets to center of stage.) What is that in your hand?

6th young person: A ping pong paddle.

Voice: Can ping pong equipment be used to help others and to glorify God?

6th young person: Yes, I think it can be, and I plan to use it that way this week.

Voice: Will you please tell us how you think you can use yours in that way.

6th young person: Well, I've been trying to get next to Ted Raines. I want to get to know him better and to talk to him about Christ. Some folks think he's pretty tough and that a Christian shouldn't have anything to do with him. I agree that I shouldn't go many of the places he goes, and I won't. But I believe God needs me and can use me to help him. And I think maybe He will Tuesday night when I invite Ted to my house for some table tennis.

How Can I Use My Possessions to Help Others?

Have everyone sitting in a circle (or seated in rows). Discuss how Junior High young people can use the possessions you listed earlier in the program to help others and to glorify God. The leader presents the name of one possession at a time. Then the first person on the leader's right expresses his opinion. This continues around the circle; no one is permitted to speak again until his turn comes up a second time.

Moments of Dedication

It has been almost two thousand years since the day the lad held the lunch of five loaves and two fishes in his hand. It has been longer yet since the eventful day a young man named David had five smooth stones in his hand. Still we remember about them. Why? Because they were dedicated and used for God's purposes.

Will anyone remember several years from now what you and I have in our hands today? They may, if we dedicate our possessions to God's use. God wants the dedication of our lives and all that we possess.

Consider the words of Wilfred Grenfell, missionary to Labrador: "It is not what you have that matters, it is what you do with what you have." "What is that in thine hand?" What will you do with it?

Daily Bible Readings for Your Quiet Hour

Here are the daily Bible readings selected for use in connection with the weekly Christian Endeavor topics for September and October, 1959. These particular selections have been chosen because they give valuable food for thought in connection with the topic for the Sunday to follow.

These readings are grouped together on one page in order that Endeavorers may easily use them. Why not clip out this section and place it in your Bible, ready for your daily Quiet Hour observance.



Junior High (Intermediate)

Daily Readings

- M., Aug. 31. Leadership by Example. I Timothy 4:12-13
T., Sept. 1. Choose Your Theme Wisely. Titus 3:8,9
W., Sept. 2. Plan an Orderly Meeting. I Corinthians 14:33-40
T., Sept. 3. Prepare the Place of Meeting. Mark 14:12-16
F., Sept. 4. Know Your Topic. II Corinthians 4:6,13
S., Sept. 5. Personal Preparation. II Timothy 2:21,22
Sun., Sept. 6. Topic—How to Lead a Meeting. I Corinthians 14:33-40
M., Sept. 7. Public Reading of Scripture. Deuteronomy 31:10-13
T., Sept. 8. Joshua Reads to the People. Joshua 8:34,35
W., Sept. 9. Baruch Reads to the People. Jeremiah 35:5-8
T., Sept. 10. Ezra Reads to the People. Nehemiah 8:3-8
F., Sept. 11. Jesus Reads to the People. Luke 4:16-20
S., Sept. 12. Reading to King and People. II Kings 23:1-3
Sun., Sept. 13. Topic—How to Read the Bible. Luke 4:16-20; I Timothy 4:13
M., Sept. 14. Pray Spiritually. Ephesians 6:18-20
T., Sept. 15. Be Brief. Ecclesiastes 5:2,3
W., Sept. 16. Pray Meaningfully. Matthew 5:7,8
T., Sept. 17. Pray Unitedly. Matthew 18:19,20
F., Sept. 18. Pray Understandably. I Corinthians 14:14-19
S., Sept. 19. Pray Humbly. II Chronicles 7:13,14
Sun., Sept. 20. Topic—How to Pray. Luke 11:1-14
M., Sept. 21. Abilities Vary. Romans 12:6-8
T., Sept. 22. Faithful Service. I Corinthians 3:8-15
W., Sept. 23. Help One Another. Acts 20:31-35
T., Sept. 24. The Source of Ability. Philippians 4:12,13,19
F., Sept. 25. Be Not Weary. Galatians 6:7-10
S., Sept. 26. Our Works for Christ. I Corinthians 10:31-33
Sun., Sept. 27. Topic—I Use My Abilities. Matthew 25:14-30
M., Sept. 28. Idle Words. Matthew 12:36,37
T., Sept. 29. Seasoned with Salt. Titus 2:7,8
W., Sept. 30. Vain Talk Condemned. Ecclesiastes 10:12-14
T., Oct. 1. Speak Comfort. Isaiah 40:1,2
F., Oct. 2. Keep Thy Tongue. Psalm 34:12,13
S., Oct. 3. Wise and Foolish Tongue. Proverbs 12:17-19,22
Sun., Oct. 4. Topic—Watch Your Tongue. James 3:2-13
M., Oct. 5. One Must Choose. Deuteronomy 30:15-20
T., Oct. 6. Justice before God. Romans 2:13-15
W., Oct. 7. A Pattern of Good Works. Titus 2:7-14
T., Oct. 8. Clean Hands. Psalm 24:3,4
F., Oct. 9. The Golden Rule. Luke 6:31
S., Oct. 10. Landmarks. Proverbs 23:10,11
Sun., Oct. 11. Topic—Respect the Things of Others. Exodus 20:12-18
M., Oct. 12. All Belong to God. Psalm 50:10-12
T., Oct. 13. Folly of Trust in Riches. Job 31:24-28
W., Oct. 14. Blessings from God. I Kings 3:11-14
T., Oct. 15. Every Good Gift. James 1:16,17

- F., Oct. 16. Treasures in Earth and Heaven. Matthew 7:19-21
S., Oct. 17. God or Mammon. Matthew 7:24,31-34
Sun., Oct. 18. Topic—"Thou Hast Much Goods." Luke 12:15-21
M., Oct. 19. A Jaw Bone. Judges 15:14-17
T., Oct. 20. Five Smooth Stones. I Samuel 17:40-51
W., Oct. 21. A Handful of Meal. I Kings 17:12-16
T., Oct. 22. Five Barley Loaves. John 6:2-13
F., Oct. 23. Zerrubbabel's Plummet. Zechariah 4:7-10
S., Oct. 24. God's Tool Chest. I Corinthians 1:27-29
Sun., Oct. 25. Topic—"What Is That in Thine Hand?" Exodus 4:1-5

Senior-Young People's Daily Readings

- M., Aug. 31. Leadership by Example. I Timothy 4:12,13
T., Sept. 1. Choose Your Theme Wisely. Titus 3:8,9
W., Sept. 2. Plan an Orderly Meeting. I Corinthians 14:33,40
T., Sept. 3. Prepare the Place of Meeting. Mark 14:12-16
F., Sept. 4. Know Your Topic. II Corinthians 4:6,13
S., Sept. 5. Personal Preparation. II Timothy 2:21,22
Sun., Sept. 6. Topic—How to Lead a Meeting. I Corinthians 14:33,40
M., Sept. 7. Public Reading of Scripture. Deuteronomy 31:10-13
T., Sept. 8. Joshua Reads to the People. Joshua 8:34,35
W., Sept. 9. Baruch Reads to the People. Jeremiah 35:5-8
T., Sept. 10. Ezra Reads to the People. Nehemiah 8:3-8
F., Sept. 11. Jesus Reads to the People. Luke 4:16-20
S., Sept. 12. Reading to King and People. II Kings 23:1-3
Sun., Sept. 13. Topic—How to Read the Bible. Luke 4:16-20; I Timothy 4:13
M., Sept. 14. Pray Spiritually. Ephesians 6:18-20
T., Sept. 15. Be Brief. Ecclesiastes 5:2,3
W., Sept. 16. Pray Meaningfully. Matthew 5:7,8
T., Sept. 17. Pray Unitedly. Matthew 18:19,20
F., Sept. 18. Pray Understandably. I Corinthians 14:14-19
S., Sept. 19. Pray Humbly. II Chronicles 7:13,14
Sun., Sept. 20. Topic—How to Pray. Luke 11:1-14
M., Sept. 21. Confidence of Leaders. Joshua 1:10-16
T., Sept. 22. Zeal of Workers. Nehemiah 4:19-23
W., Sept. 23. Cooperation of Members. Exodus 36:1-4
T., Sept. 24. Inspiration of the Past. Deuteronomy 4:9-14
F., Sept. 25. Challenge of the Present. Joshua 1:1-9
S., Sept. 26. Vision of the Future. Deuteronomy 33:26-29
Sun., Sept. 27. Topic—Auditing Ourselves. Romans 14:1-12
M., Sept. 28. Self-Control. I Corinthians 9:25-27
T., Sept. 29. Personal Conduct. Psalm 101:2-4
W., Sept. 30. Recreation at Home. Luke 15:22-29
T., Oct. 1. Care for the Body. I Corinthians 3:16-19
F., Oct. 2. Recreation and Friendship. Colossians 3:1-17
S., Oct. 3. Setting Christian Standards. I Corinthians 10:31-33

- Sun., Oct. 4. Topic—The Youthful Christian and Recreation.** Zechariah 8:1-6
M., Oct. 5. Talent Belongs to God. I Peter 4:10,11
T., Oct. 6. All to God's Glory. I Corinthians 10:31
W., Oct. 7. A Christian Businessman. Philemon 1-6
T., Oct. 8. Called to Serve. Matthew 19:16-22
F., Oct. 9. A Woman in Business. Acts 16:14,15
S., Oct. 10. A Price to Pay. Luke 14:25-33
Sun., Oct. 11. Topic—The Youthful Christian and Business. Job 1:6-10,22
M., Oct. 12. Justice Required. II Samuel 23:3
T., Oct. 13. Honesty Required. Deuteronomy 17:16,17
W., Oct. 14. Serve for God. II Chronicles 19:5-7
T., Oct. 15. John the Baptist's Advice. Luke 3:12-14
F., Oct. 16. A Ruling Servant. Mark 10:42-44
S., Oct. 17. Requirements for Civic Leaders. Exodus 18:19-22
Sun., Oct. 18. Topic—The Youthful Christian and Politics. Romans 13:1-7
M., Oct. 19. Called to Decision. Deuteronomy 30:15-20
T., Oct. 20. God over Man. Acts 5:25-29
W., Oct. 21. Holy Boldness. Acts 26:24-30
T., Oct. 22. The Courage of Nehemiah. Nehemiah 6:11-13
F., Oct. 23. Be Brave. Philippians 1:23-30
S., Oct. 24. Let Us Be Men. II Samuel 10:11
Sun., Oct. 25. Topic—"Here I Stand." Joshua 24:14-18. (Reformation Sunday)

JUNIOR CE MEETINGS The Quarterly for Juniors

Topics for SEPTEMBER

- Sept. 6. "This Is My Father's World." Psalm 8:3
Sept. 13. My Life for Christ. Mark 10:28-30
Sept. 20. Service for Christ. Matthew 9:35-38
Sept. 27. Fellowship with Christ's People. I John 1:3

Topics for OCTOBER

- Oct. 4. My Bible, a Road Map. Matthew 7:13,14; Psalm 119:10
Oct. 11. Learning from My Bible. Mark 4:30-34; II Timothy 2:15
Oct. 18. Practice in Using My Bible. Mark 4:14-20
Oct. 25. My Bible, a Library. John 20:30,31; I John 5:20

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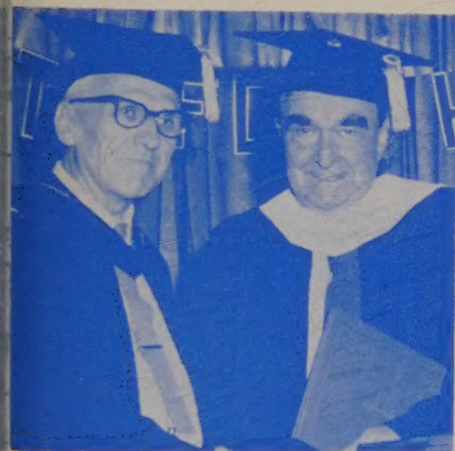
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NEWS

from around the world

M. Elizabeth Wells of Auburndale, Massachusetts, was elected a Life Trustee of the International Society at the Philadelphia Convention. She is the daughter of Dr. Amos R. Wells, who for 42 years was connected with THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD, serving most of that time as editor-in-chief. Other Life Trustees are Mrs. H. Spencer Clark of Toronto, Ontario; Mrs. Daniel A. Poling of New York City; and Rev. William Hiram Foulkes, D.D., of Smithtown, Long Island, New York.



Dr. Elmer Becker (left) confers degree on Dr. Daniel A. Poling at Huntington College commencement June 8.

When Dr. Daniel A. Poling, president of the World's Christian Endeavor Union, received the honorary degree of Doctor of Humanities at Huntington College (Indiana) commencement, the following citation was read by Dr. Elmer Becker, president of the college:

"DANIEL A. POLING, in recognition of your able leadership in the Christian ministry of world renown, a servant of Jesus Christ and His church, designated by the President of the United States as 'America's spiritual ambassador of good will'; for almost half a century a state, national, and world Christian Endeavor leader, which position as President of the World's Christian Endeavor Union you continue to hold; editor of one of the outstanding religious interdenominational journals, the CHRISTIAN HERALD, author of many books, radio speaker, leader in civic movements, counselor of philanthropists, friend of youth, and a dynamic figure in American life; advocate of fundamental standards of Christian citizenship; courageous champion and exponent of the Christian cause in America and in every land; I do, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Board of Trustees, on the recommendation of the Faculty, hereby confer upon you the degree of Doctor of Humanities, honoris causa, and present you with this certificate as a testimonial thereof."



"Jesus Our Friend" was the convention theme for West Virginia Endeavorers when they met early in June at Camp Ev-Un-Breth Acres, Buckhannon. Evening speakers included Rev. Harry Eckels of Clarksburg; Rev. Sheldon Thomas, Martins Ferry, Ohio; Rev. Thomas Ullom, West Alexander, Pennsylvania; and Cecil A. Jeffery of Columbus, Ohio. Rev. Lamar F. Neville of Martinsburg was the quiet hour speaker.

NEWS ABOUT FORMER YOUTH ASSEMBLY OFFICERS—

Helen Scott graduated June 18 from District of Columbia Teachers College and is currently serving as national president of the A.M.E. Zion Youth Council.

Jean Ferguson, a student at Deaconess Training School in Toronto, announced her engagement to Rev. John C. Bayne, recent graduate of Knox College. Jean is serving this summer in the mission field in Nova Scotia.

Vernon Hoffman received the first prize for sermon delivery and the Faculty Award for Senior Excellence when he graduated from Western Theological Seminary this year. He was ordained May 27 and is now at work on the east coast of Florida, establishing a new Reformed Church in the Pompano Beach area.

Jana Woodrum on June 27 became Mrs. William Bruce Rowe. The wedding ceremony was performed at First Presbyterian Church, Berthoud, Colorado.

Kentucky Endeavorers are pictured at Camp Piomingo, Otter Creek Park, for their annual convention. Wilhelmina Reinhard, convention committee chairman, reports an outstanding convention with many decisions. At the closing session a fagot service was held with youth participating as they gave personal testimony. Convention leaders included Rev. Samuel VanderMeer, Rev. W. F. Gravens, Rev. Bill Holeman, Rev. Raymond Denekeas, Christian A. Tirre, and Cecil A. Jeffery. Mrs. W. L. Knuettel and Mrs. Louis Stafford were in charge of the special Junior sessions.



Peter J. Raz, Oregon convention registrar, presents first award to Columbia Union at annual convention in Astoria. Dan Moore, president, receives the award. Over 1,000 delegates attended convention sessions.



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